Hungers Prevention:

OR,

The whole Art

OF

FOVVLING

BY

Water *and* Land.

Containing all the Secrets belonging to that Art, and brought into a true *Forme or Method, by which the moſt Ignorant* may know how to take any kind of *Fowle, either by Land or Water.*

Alſo, exceeding neceſſary and profitable for all ſuch as travell by Sea, and come into uninhabited places: Eſpecially, all thoſe that have any thing to doe with New Plantations.

By GERVASE MARKHAM.

LONDON,
Printed for *Francis Grove*, and are to be ſold by *Martha Harriſon* at the ſigne of the *Lambe* at the Eaſt end of St. *Paules Church.* 1655.

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1655

TO THE HONORABLE KNIGHT

Sr. EDWIN SANDS, and to his much honor'd and worthy friends, Mr. THOMAS GIBBS *Esquire*, Mr. THEODORE GVLSTON Doctor of Physick, and Mr. *Samuel Rotte* Esquire, Adventurers, and Noble favourers of the blessed Plantation of *Virginia*.

CUstome which maketh this claim of dedication, and the goodnesse of your noble and worthy Natures, stirres in me a boldnes

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neſſe to call upon your names, and to fix them to the Frontiſpiece of this ſmall and little Treatiſe, that as a ſafe Armour they may ſhield it from the bitterneſſe of Envie. What the work is, or how profitable it may be, either to the preſent times, or thoſe of the Future, your own judgments can better tell, then any defence in me make perfect; It is ſufficient that I have brought it into the World to doe you ſervice, at which end if it have the happineſſe to arrive, it hath the full gain of all mine own wiſhes; if otherwiſe it ſtumble on miſchance, the oblivion which ſhal cover me, ſhall be no greater then the patience which I have long ſince made mine own and only companion. However my hope which cannot ſink, and your goodneſſes (which is the ſtrong ground-work of this my poor endeavour)

deavour) ſhall keep me thus confident that what I have done is both honeſt in it ſelfe, and wholeſome for others; and with that Livery, I ſend it into the World to doe you and yours ſervice, both here, and in other forteine places.

By him that is the true

admirer of your Vertues,

GERVASE MARKHAM.

To all the moſt Worthy and noble Lords, Knights, Gentlemen, and Merchants, Counſellors, *and adventurers for the* bleſſed plantation of *Virginia.*

I Have here preſumed (Right Honourable, right worſhipfull, and moſt worthy Gentlemen) to preſent unto your hands this ſmal Treatiſe, being a work long by me thought upon, long by many of my deareſt friends urged upon, and now I hope (to the glory of God, and my Countries profit) in a good and proſperous hower brought forth to be lookt upon: the Livery it wears is Truth, the reward it ſeeks

is

is triall and experience, and the full ayme at which it bends is the generall good of all good men, whoſe painfull induſtries, make them the Maſters, Fathers, and Nurſes of the beſt Knowledges.

Ignorance, Wealth, and Eaſe may hold ſleight of the argument, but that Wiſdome and Experience which hath runne through the teſt of affliction, will ſay it is worthy and neceſſary: for it will feed the hungry, cloath the naked, and give ſoft reſt to the weary; it will appeaſe Mutinies, breed Love, and make men able every way to doe and ſuffer.

Being then ſo good in it ſelfe, and ſo glorious in others, to whom can I better preferre it then to your worthy goodneſſes, whoſe pious and religious hearts, ayming to reduce an Infinite number of yet loſt ſoules to the poſſeſſion of the true heavenly Hieruſalem, *have already kindled the glori-*

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our Star of example in the South, which doubtlesse giveth that certain promise of never to be extinguisht Sunneshine, that men which are now living, Babes sucking, and Infants yet unborn, shall travell as holy Pylgrimes to your monuments, to admire and praise your vertues. To the treasurie of that action of Plantation, lo, I bring this my poor mite, and offer it to your service, which if you shall please to accept, I doubt not but the benefit shall return to those in your imployment, a revenue worthy their practises: and my selfe rest ever ready to do you and my Country Service.

Gervase Markham.

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FINIS.

Hungers Prevention:

CONTAINING

The whole Art of Fowling by Water and Land.

CHAP. I.

Of the pleaſant recreation of Fowling, and all the particular knowledges belonging to the ſame.

FOwling is an Art of diſcerning and underſtanding how to take all manner of Fowle, and it is to bee applied or uſed two ſeverall waies, that is to ſay, either by enchantment, or enticement, by winning or wooing the *The Art of Fowling.*

Fowle unto you with Pipe, Whiſtle, or Call: which either beguileth them with their own voyce, or amazeth them with the ſtrangeneſſe of the ſound: or elſe by Engine, which unawares ſurpriſeth and entangleth them: of both which I ſhall ſpeake more largly hereafter.

Diverſity of Fowles: Now for the Fowle on which the Art is to be exerciſed, they are divers and of ſundry natures; and ſo as if a man ſhould run into all the particularities, it were infinite to deſcribe, becauſe they alter in nature as in feather, but for the purpoſe of which I intend to entreat, and for the better underſtanding of the Reader, I will reduce them only into two generall kinds or heads, that is to ſay, into Water-fowle, and Land-fowle, concluding under them all whatſoever is uſeful or neceſſary for man: as whether it bee for his pleaſure, his particular profit and vocation, or for his diſh, whereby his Table and dyet may bee ſupported and maintained, & but for ſome one of theſe three, this Art is needleſſe and uſeleſſe.

The nature of water-Fowle. To ſpeake then firſt of Water-Fowle, which for their more abundance and generality of uſe, you ſhall vnderſtand they

they are a kind of Fowle which naturally take delight to live in the water, gathering from thence their food and sustenance: and out of the which they cannot by any meanes live, which makes them more particular in some places then other Land-Fowle are: for into high & dry countries they will not come except in the winter season, and not then neither, except it bee upon great inundation or overflowing of brookes, which commonly so soone as they returne into their first narrow and small estate, they forthwith quit the places, and are no more seene there; for it is to be understood, that all Water-fowle are in their owne nature the subtileſt and wiſeſt of Birds, and moſt reſpective to their owne ſafety: whence it came to paſſe, that the moſt ancient and skilfull Faulconers have compared them to a well-ordered, and well governed Campe, ſtrongly fortified and intrenched with floods of waters, Rivers and Ditches, with their high bankes almoſt unpaſſable, and having Scouts on land farre off, and Courts of Guard, Sentinels, and all ſorts of other watchfull Officers ſurrounding the body

of the groſſe, to give a ſpeedy alarum on any approach or diſmay taken; and indeed, whoſoever ſhall obſerve their maner of living or couching, ſhall find no leſſe then I have ſpoken, and how ever ſome ſtraggling Fowle which lye aloof from the great numbers or whole body will ſtill call firſt, and as it were awaken the reſt upon the leaſt noyſe, amazement, or other affright diſcerned; for it is the nature of Water-fowle never to flye alone, but in great flockes and herds, having ever a moſt eſpeciall reſpect to the generall ſafetie: and where at any time you ſhall ſee a ſingle Fowle, or a couple flying alone, there you may be aſſured they have violently been ſtirred up by ſome affright, and ſo either in the amazement, or purſuit, have been compelled to ſeparate and diſperſe themſelves, yet ſuch is their natures, and ſo addicted to ſocietie and company, that they wil not ceaſe, nay, hardly ſometimes leave wing, until they have met together againe: and as this may ſometimes happen by mens paſsing up and down by their haunts, ſo it moſt commonly chanceth by the beating of *Hagards,*

ward, and wild Hawkes upon rivers and blanke waters, which turning aloft, and watching for their prey: when at any time they arise, presently pursue them, and cause these alterations: Nay, the very bald Buzzards, and Ring-tailes will sometimes occasion the same.

CHAP. II.

The severall kinds of Foule, and taking with Nets.

NOw of these VVater-foule, and such as may very well passe under that title, there are innumerable kinds, if feather or proportiõ should distinguish them: but for the better order and method of this worke which I intend, I will onely reduce them into two severall kinds. That is, such as live of the water, and upon the water by gathering much of their food from thence, and swimming continually thereupon, and such as live of the water, but

not upon the water, as by the gathering of moſt of their food from thence, but not ſwimming upon the ſame, more then wading with their long legs therin, & diving with their long necks to gather that wheron they feed. For ſuch as live of the water & on the water, are wild *Swannes*, or *Elues*, *Buzzards*, *wild Geeſe*, *Barnacles*, *Mallards*, *Widgeons*, *Tayles*, *Snypes*, *Shelfowle*, and all manner of Fowle whatſoever, which hath a whole webbd foot like the *Gooſe* or *Mallard*, being, as it were, by nature made and accommodated for the water: thoſe whole webd feet-like Oares rowing their bodies upon the waters in what manner they pleaſe, and theſe are called the ſmaller kind of wilde Fowle: Thoſe which live of the water, not on the water, are *Cranes*, *Herns*, *Bilters*, *Storks*, and any Fowle whatſoever wch findeth his ſuſtenance in the water, and yet hath his foot cloven, and theſe are called ever the greater ſort of water-Fowle.

The haunts of Fowles.

Now to proceed to the pleaſure, profit and knowledg of this Art, which is the manner of taking of either of theſe Kind of Fowles: The firſt and principal-

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leſt thing our skilfull Fowler hath to learne, is the knowledg of the haunts or places of reſidence where theſe *Fowle* for the moſt part abide,; for to hunt (as men ſay) after Had I wiſt, or to find the pleaſure you purſue but by chance or hazard, without Art, knowledg and experience, makes the toyle ſo much greater then the delight, and the profit ſo incertaine, that both lye drowned and loſt in the ignorance. This to redreſſe and draw a certainty to the recreation : you ſhall underſtand that all ſorts of greater Wild-fowle, which are thoſe which cleave the foot; their haunts are commonly by the edges and ſides of ſhallow Rivers, Brookes or other rundles, or currents of water, which doe either come from their eſpeciall heads, or elſe are worne and made by the violence and force of the inundations of Lands-waters, which falling downe into thoſe low places or draines, doe for the Winter time runne like ſmall Brookes, or Rivers, and theſe Sewers or paſſages of water commonly doe not laſt longer then the Winter or Springs, but dry up as the yeare groweth dry and temperate.

Neither ſhall you here expect to finde herds or flockes of theſe Fowle, for neithe will the place afford them foode, nor is the ſafety ſo pleaſing to multitudes, only upon ſuch wadable Rivers; you ſhall finde here a couple, and there a couple, and hardly above a payre at once in one place, which makes them ſomewhat the harder to be taken by engine or device, but are the braveſt and beſt flights for Hawkes that can be deviſed; eſpecially the *Heron* which taketh moſt delight in theſe places, becauſe here they may wade & dive at their pleaſures: for by reaſon of the breaking out of Rivers, whoſe overflowes falleth into theſe rundels or forc'd currents, theſe Fowles often find much ſmall Fiſh and other prey which makes them tarry and continue about thoſe places; beſides, being ſo eaſie to wade and dive in, the prey is gotten with eaſe; and the Fowl much apter to continue there then in places of more difficultly: Alſo they delight in low ſtickes and boggy places, where the Lands-waters deſcending, fall and keep a continuall lake or plaſh, and the more ſedgie, mariſh, rotten and fertill

till ſuch grounds are, the fitter they are for the haunts of ſuch fowl, prouided they have firme wading therein without pits, quarries, or ſuch places of deepes and dangers: alſo they love to haunt and abide upon the dry bankes, or hard knobs of earth which either border about, or are within overflowed & drowned Medowes, lowe paſtures, or ſuch like firme earths, where the Fowle may wade and wander up and downe to finde his food now in the water, and immediately on the dry ground, they love alſo the dry parts of drowned Fennes, which are overgrowne with tall & long ruſhes, reeds, ſedges, ſtover, or any other kind of Covert, eſpecially the *Bitters*, which naturally is a melancholly fowl, & delights not in the day but in dark ſhadie and obſcure places; laſtly, they affect to wander upon rotten and halfe drowned Mores or Carrs, through which paſſe many draynes or ſluces for water, or the hollow vallies of Downes, Heathes, or plaines, where there is ſhelter either of hedges, Hills, Rocks, or other tuffes of Buſhes or Trees, where they may lurke obſcurely and be hardly diſcerned, now

for

for the leſſer Fowle and ſuch as cleave not the foote, but have it entire as in one webbe; their chiefe and principalleſt haunts, and where the greateſt numbers reſort, is on continuall drowned Fennes or Carres, where the water abideth the longeſt time without abatement, or when it is by the violence of the Sunns heate, and the dry temperature of the ſeaſon brought to be firme ground; yet it is ſo invironed with greate Sluces, Ditches, and draynes, or with the falling downe of great main Rivers or currents of freſh water, that there is continually plenty for them to ſwim upon, and to finde ſafetie from the affright of men, and the troubles of the grazing of Cattle; either of which they will not endure, whence it comes, that as the water leaves them, ſo they leave the place, and remove into the moyſter and colder Clymates; their haunts is the maine Streames and Channels of the greateſt Rivers, where the current is ſwifteſt and leaſt ſubject to freeze, and the broader and deeper ſuch Rivers are, the greateſt delight doe the ſmaller Fowle take therein. The *Wild Goose* and the *Barnacle* onely excepted, which do

light not in water above their ſounding; for when they cannot conveniently come to the bottom to ſuck upon the Ouze, or fatneſſe of the water, they preſently depart thence and ſeeke more ſhallow places; alſo theſe two ſorts of Fowle, the *VVild Gooſe* and *Barnacle*, are infinitly delighted with greene winter Corne, as the blades of Wheate or Rye: and therefore they are ever for the moſt part to be found where any ſuch Graine is ſowne, eſpecially where the ends of the Lands are much drowned, or have much water ſtanding about them, wherein they may bath and padell themſelves after their feeding. The next place that theſe ſmaller wild Fowle delight to haunt in, are the ſmaller Brookes and Rivers; pits & ponds full of water, as where quarries of ſtone have been digged, plaſter, clay, Potters earth, or ſuch like matter: alſo upon drowned Medowes, paſtures, Moores or ſuch like places: alſo upon plaſhes & blanke waters, or upon Meares, loughes or any great Lakes, and ſo much the rather if they be full of little Ilands very ſeldome frequented, and thoſe Ilands well furniſhed with Shrubs, Buſhes, Reedes,

Reeds, and other ſuch like ſhelter, for then they will build therein & (the water running continually) not depart at any ſeaſon, & if theſe Ilands have growing within them ſome very tall Trees alſo, it is a good haunt for the greater wild Fowl alſo: for the *Storke*, *Crane*; and ſome other delight to build and breed in ſuch Places. Laſtly theſe ſmaller wild Fowl delight to be whereſoever any water remaineth, and little reſort of people commeth, for the only thing they labor for is their ſafety, and where they are not perſwaded of it, there is no abiding.

CHAP. III.

Taking of great Fowle with Nets.

WHen our Fowler knoweth the haunts of every ſort of Fowle, hee ſhall then proceed and learne how to take them; and in it there are divers things to be obſerved for fowle are to bee taken divers wayes as by Nets, with Fowling Piece, with the

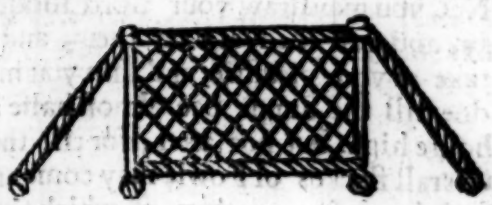
Stalk

Stalking horſe, with the Water Dogge, or by driving them as in the time of moulting, and divers other ſundry waies, all which ſhall be at large ſet forth and explained hereafter: Firſt then for the taking of theſe greater ſorte of wilde Fowle with Nets, he ſhall firſt obſerve the making of his Nets, which would be of the ſtrongeſt & beſt twined Packthred, with great and large maſhes, at leaſt two Inches from poynt to poynt, or from knot to knot, for it is to be obſerved, that theſe maſhes the longer they are (ſo as the Fowle may not creep through them) the better they are, and the ſooner and faſter they doe entangle and hold the Fowle; for the quantitie, it would be not above two fadome deep at the moſt, and ſix in length, which is the greateſt proportion that can be, and as much as a man is well able to overthrow: this Net ſhall be verged on each ſide with very ſtrong Cord, and at each end extended out ſtiff vpon long poles for the purpoſe, then the Fowler having obſerved the haunts of theſe Fowl, that is to ſay, their Morning and Evening feeding, (for you ſhall ſeldom obſerve both in one

and

and the ſelfe ſame place) he ſhall make ſure to come at leaſt two howers before thoſe feeding times which are at twilight in the morning, and after Sunne ſet at night, and upon thoſe haunts hee ſhall ſpread his net plain and flatt upon the ground, ſtaking the two lower ends firm unto the ground, ſo as they may oncly come and goe, and no more: as for the upper ends or higher verge, it ſhall ſtand extended vpon the long cord, the further end thereof being ſtaked fall down to the earth two or three Fadoms from the Net, and the ſtake which ſtaketh downe that coard to ſtand in a direct and even line with the lower edge or verge of the Net, the diſtance ſtill obſerved, then the other end of the cord (which ſhall be at leaſt tenne or twelve fadom long, the Fowler ſhall hold in his owne hand at the uttermoſt diſtance aforeſaid, where he ſhall make ſome artificiall ſhelter of graſſe, ſodds, earth, or ſuch like matter, where hee may lye out of the ſight of the Fowle, and neither give them offence by his owne view, or the thing whereby he is obſcured, according to this figure following.

And



And theſe things thus being made fit, he ſhall have care that his Net lye ſo tickle & yare, that upon the leaſt pull or twitch it will riſe from the earth and fly over. Then he ſhall with his knife cut up ſhort dead fogge and other graſſe, & ſprinckling it on the ſurface of the Net, hide it as much as you can from the view of the Fowle, for they are ſubtill, and upon the leaſt diſlike are gone ſuddenly: when things are thus fitted, you ſhall lye cloſe and watch their feeding time, and if you ſhall cloſe by your Net ſtake down a live *Heron* (formerly taken) for a Stale, & to entice the Fowle within your danger it will be better, making her now & then to flutter her wings, and thus the Fowle comming unto their haunt, and feeding up and down as their natures are, as ſoone as you perceive a competent number come within the danger of your

Net,

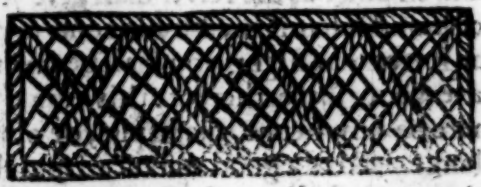
Net, you may draw your Cord ſuddenly, and caſt the Net over them, and ſo take at your pleaſure, and thus you may doe till the Sunne bee almoſt halfe an houre high, but not after; for till then ſeverall flockes of Fowle may come and feed, but after not any, at which time you may take up your Nettes and depart, doing the like in the Evening at their evening haunts, which is from the Sunne ſet till twilight at night, or firſt riſing of the ſtarres: and thus you may take any of theſe greater ſort of Wilde-Fowle; as alſo the *plover* of both kinds, or any Fowle whatſoever wh c htketh his foode from the Land as much as from the Water, or more at ſome times and ſeaſons.

CHAP. IIII.

The taking of ſmall Fowle with Nets, and great Fowle with Strings.

NOw for the taking of your ſmaller ſort of VVilde-Fowle with Netts, which are ſuch as for the moſt part frequent

quent and feede upon the water, you ſhall firſt obſerve to make your Nets of the ſmalleſt and ſtrongeſt packthred, and the maſhes of a much leſſe compaſſe then for the greater Fowle, neither ſhall they be of above two foot and a halfe, or three foot deep, and as theſe are for divers purpoſes, ſo they ſhal be of divers lengths, as ſome to pitch overthwart Brookes or Rivers, & they ſhall be anſwerable to the Brooks or Rivers they are pitcht over, as ſome two fadome, ſome three, ſome five, and ſom nine, and theſe Nets ſhall be lined on both ſides with falſe Nets of ſtrong packthred, every maſh being very neare a foot and a halfe ſquare each way, that as the fowle ſtriketh either through them, or againſt them, ſo the ſmaller Net may paſſe through the great maſhes, & ſo ſtraiten and intangle the Fowle as thus.



Theſe Nets you ſhall pitch for the Evening

ning flight of Fowle, before Sunne ſet; and you ſhall ſtake them faſt downe on each ſide of the River, about halfe a foot within the water, the lower ſide of the Net being ſo plumd that it may ſinke ſo farre and no more, then for the upper ſide of the Net, you ſhall place it ſlantwiſe ſhoaling againſt the water, yet not touching the water by a foot and a halfe at the leaſt, and the ſtrings which ſupports and holds up this upper ſide of the Net ſhall be faſtned to ſmall yeelding ſticks, prickt in the banke, which as the Fowle ſtriketh may yeeld and give libertie to the Net to runne and intangle the Fowle: yet one end ever made ſo faſt that the Net may by no meanes be carried away, and thus you ſhall place divers of theſe Nets over divers parts of the River or Brooke, about twelve ſcore one from an other as the River ſhall give you occaſion, ſo that if any Fowle come upon the River that night, you ſhall be ſure to have your ſhare thereof: this done, if there be any Fenne, plaſh, pits, or other blanke waters a good diſtance from the River, you ſhall goe downe unto them; and the Evening beginning to ſhut in,

you

you ſhall ſhoote a piece, two or three off upon thoſe blanke waters, and raiſe the Fowle from thence, which at that time being ſcar'd will preſently pack to the River, then you ſhall take your larger and middle ſized Nets, and with them you ſhall ſurround your ſmall plaſhes, pits or blank waters, hanging your Nets ſlopwiſe and hovering over them, yet ſo looſe as is poſſible; then with your largeſt or longeſt Nets of all, you ſhall goe to the Fennes or bigger waters, and in thoſe places where the greateſt haunts of Fowle are, you ſhall ſtake downe your Nets on the bankes, ſhoaling over the water in ſuch ſort as hath been formerly deſcribed; ſo as no Fowle can come to the bank, or riſe from the banke, but may be intangled: alſo if there be any covert of Sedges, Reeds, Ruſhes, or other matter within the water, you ſhall pitch your Nets about them alſo; which done, an howre or two before day in the Morning, you ſhall take your piece and goe to the River firſt, and ſee what your Nets have taken, which when you have unladed, you may then take up thoſe Nets, and lay them up till the next Evening,

then if you finde there be many Fowle on the River, you may ſhoot off your Piece in one or two places, and that will preſently ſend them to the Fennes and blanke Waters, which done, when you have beſtowed your Nets in places conenient til you have further uſe for them you ſhall about the firſt riſing of the Sun, goe to your other Nets which are on the blanke waters, and ſee what they have taken, unlade them; and ſo hang them by till the next time of uſe as aforeſaid, and thus without fayle, where plenty of Fowle are you ſhall take plenty: and where they are the ſcarceſt, yet you ſhall have an equall ſhare without much trouble.

The taking of great Fowle with ſtrings.

The next manner of taking of Fowle is with ſtrings or Lines made of long ſmall Coard knotted here and there, and containing in length many fadomes, according to the proportion of the places and haunts where you are to lay them; and they are of eſpeciall great uſe for the taking of all ſort of the greater Wild-Fowle, and the *Plovers* of both kinds, which when our Fowler ſhal at any time uſe, he ſhall take thoſe Strings as afore-

ſaid, and lime them all over exceeding well with the ſtrongeſt and beſt Birdlime that may be got, then comming to the haunts where theſe Fowle moſt frequent and feed, if it be for the Evening flight, then before Sunne ſet, if for the Morning flight, then at the leaſt two howrs before day, and having a whole burthen of little ſtickes about two foot long at the moſt, ſharp at the nether end and with a little forke at the upper end; he ſhall prick them in even rowes all over the ground or place of haunt, one row diſtant from another a yard or two, and one ſtick ſiding another, within fowre or five yards as they may conveniently beare up the Strings, and they ſhall be prickt a little ſhoaling or ſlantwiſe: ſo as they may be within a foot and a halfe of the ground at the uttermoſt, then ſhall theſe limed Strings be drawne and layd vpon the forkes ſome rowes higher then other ſome, like a billow of water, higher in one place then another; till every row be filled and the haunt covered all over, then you ſhall faſten the ends with a ſlipping loope, in ſuch wiſe that upon any violent ſtraine the whole ſtring

may loosen and lap about any thing which toucheth it, and in this wise you shall take a great number of Fowle together, according to the flockes and herds in which they flye, especially *plevers*, which for the most part come many together, and not in a single file or rowe, as commonly other Fowle doe, but in a great broad cluster, spreading and covering the ayre as it were all over; and this manner of taking happeneth most commonly in the falling or comming to the ground of the Fowle, whose nature is to swoope close by the ground a good distance before they light, which happening amongst the strings, either all or most part are many times intangled, and these strings you need not over precisely watch, but being placed you may goe about other busines till the time of flight be past, and then returne to see what is taken, you shall finde such as are stricken with the strings fast enough, so as they can neither loosen themselves, nor yet run away with the strings to hide either it or themselves, and noting in what sort you layd your strings, in the same ranks, commonly you shall finde them,

or not much further off, which being unladed, you may lappe them up againe till you have other convenient time to uſe them.

This taking of Fowle with Limed Strings, may alſo be very well applied for the taking of the ſmaller wild-fowle, and ſuch as only haunt the water, onely then our Fowler muſt obſerve to lime all his ſtrings with ſtrong and very good water-tride lime, ſuch as will indure the water, and not loſe his vertue therein; and theſe Strings are to be applyed either for the morning or Evening flight as aforeſaid; obſerving to take time enough before either of the flights, for the placing of the Strings; & not to place them any where but upon the moſt aſſured haunts, where the Fowle certainely doe frequent and feed; for otherwiſe it is loſſe of labour & much trouble to little purpoſe; now for the manner of placing theſe Strings, as before you did them upon the ground, ſo now you ſhall doe them over the water within leſſe then halfe a foot thereof: making your forked ſtickes ſo much longer on purpoſe, according to the ſhallow or deepenes of

Taking of ſmal fowle with ſtrings.

of the water: and herein you ſhall obſerve to lay theſe ſtrings ſeldome or never in any Mooneſhine night, leſt the ſhadow of the Lines give offence to the Fowle, or if you doe lay them, to ſet it in ſuch darke and obſcure places, where by the helpe either of banke, Tree, or other ſhelter, the Mooneſhine may be helde backe and obſcured, and your worke not perceived.

And thus you may alſo lay theſe ſtrings overthwart Rivers or Brookes, and ſo, as they may almoſt very neer touch the water, nor neede you herein at any time to make ſhorter your ſtrings, but pricking downe the firſt end, goe from bough to bough till you have covered ſo much of the River all over, as you ſhall thinke to bee fit and convenient, and ſo as if any Fowle light thereon, they may not fall out of your compaſſe, or from your danger: as thus for example.

And

And having thus placed your ſtrings both on the banke-waters and croſſe the Rivers, and obſerving the earlieſt houres, as ſoone as the flight are paſt, to come and viſit your workes, you ſhall finde (that knowing the right haunts) if Fowle fall any where, they muſt neceſſarily fall within your danger, nor can you chuſe but take very many: For (as I ſaid) comming in whole ſhoales or flockes together, though theſe Fowle flye ſingly one after one, yet in their deſcent or lighting on the water, they doe ſpread themſelves, and come into a ſingle ranke, all as it were lighting together (though not flying in one ranke or company) on the water in one and the ſame inſtant: whereby it is not a ſingle Fowle that ſtriketh the ſtring alone, but for the moſt part the whole flocke flye ſo neer together, and ſo come ſwooping into the Net.

CHAP.

Chap: V:

Taking of great Fowle with Lime-twigs.

THe next manner of taking of Fowle is with the Lime-twigs, which may likewiſe, as the reſt before before ſpoken of, be appropriated and accommodated to all ſorts of Fowle, both the greater and the ſmaller. Touching the taking of the greater ſort of Wild-fowle with Lime-twiggs: our Fowlrr muſt provide himſelfe of good ſtore of rodds, the beſt kind whereof are the long, ſmall and ſtreight growne twiggs, or roddes, which grow on the buſhie branches of the Willow, being cut of an even length one by another; and theſe twigges of which we ſpeake, being for the greateſt ſort of Fowle, ſhould be of the greateſt length and thicknes, yet but ſmall, light, and ſlender, being apt to play, winde about and cleave to the leaſt feather which

which toucheth it ; and for the true length thereof, it muſt ſuite the place in which it is to be uſed, as the length of the graſſe, fogge, ruſhes, or ſuch like, amongſt which it is to bee pricked, or elſe the depth of the water, that as much of the twigge as is limed may in the ſtanding be free from other annoyance.

Theſe rodds or twiggs thus prepared, you ſhall with very good and ſtrong Bird-lime beſmeare all the upper parts or points thereof, downe below the middle part of the rodde, and holding them before the fire, make the Bird-lime melt and and runne upon them, that the barke of the rodde may not be diſcerned from the Bird-lime ; and thus having made a convenient number of them according to the quantitie of grounds or haunts wherewith you are acquainted, you ſhall uſe them in this manner.

Firſt, having well obſerved and acquainted your ſelfe with the haunts and feeding of theſe greater ſort of Wildfowle, and know both morning and evening where they uſually doe light, you ſhall then before Sunne ſet (as before I ſhewed) if it be for the evening flight,

and

and before day if it be for the Morning flight goe with your Lime-rods to their severall haunts, and in the very heart or midst of the haunt you shall first pinne down a stale, which should be a live foule formerly taken, of the same kinde which they are that now haunt the places, and for which you now lay, and this Stale you shall pinne downe in such sort, that she may have libertie of wings to flutter up and downe at pleasure, and then on each side, and round about this Stale every way you shall prick downe your Lyme-roddes within a foot or thereabout one of another in even rowes one by one, and row after row till you have covered the haunt all over, and left no place for any Fowle to fall besides them.

And these roddes you shall pricke sloape-wise with the points bending into the winde, and from the ground a good foote and better. Some use to crosse-prick them, that is, one point into the winde, and another against the winde, that which way soever the Fowle commeth, they may the more readily take them without any prevention; and truely

truely it is not to bee disallowed, for it doth afford much safety to the worke: when you have thus placed your Lime-roddes, you shall then place a *Stale* or two more aloof from the Lime-roddes, and then finding a fitt and convenient place for your selfe to lye concealed in, and having small strings running along the ground, by which you make the *Stales* stirre at your owne pleasure, lye as close as is possible, and when you heare or see any Fowle comming, stirre your *Stales* and they will presently upon sight of them, strike and swoope in amongst them, where if any touch (if you have so much leisure) you may take them away presently, but if not, let them flutter and tumble amongst the roddes till the greater herds come, and that you have lymed as many as you are able to deale with, then you may rise, and gather them together at your pleasure; and here is to be noted, that in this case of taking Fowle with the Lyme-rods, as your selfe may not be absent, so you must have also for your better ayde an exellent good, well taught and obedient Water-dogge, that when any Fowle offereth

to flutter away, as ordinarily they will doe though your eye be never ſo good, the dogge may forthwith finde them out and bring them unto you, for in this confuſion and taking of many there will be worke enough for both: when you have gathered vp al your foule, ſlain ſuch as you pleaſe, & ſaved thoſe you thinke meet for *Stales*, and ſo bagged them ſeverally, you ſhall then gather up your Rods and bundle them up together, and ſo carry them where they may lye ſafely till your next occaſion to uſe them; and thus you may doe Morning and Evening during the ſeaſon of the yeer, and as long as the haunt ſhall ſerve your purpoſe.

Taking of ſmaller fowle with Limerods.

Theſe Lime-rods may alſo be applied for the ſmaller ſort of Wild-fowle, and and ſuch as onely frequent the water, and they muſt be trimd & fizd out according to your uſe, and the depth or founding of the water, making them ſo much longer as the water is deeper: and the Lime which trimmeth theſe Rods would bee good ſtrong water Lime ſuch as no moyſture or froſt may trouble; now for the placing of theſe Rods, as you did pricke them

them on the dry Land, ſo you ſhall prick them in the Water, as much of the Rod as is limed being above the water, and amongſt your Rods you ſhal ſtake downe here and there a live-Stale being either a *Mallard*, or a *Widgeon*, or a *Tayle*, and thus you may doe all over either any ſhallow plaſh, fenn, or any other blank waters which is wadeable, or ſo as you may with convenience prick down your Lim-rods, alſo you may pricke thē down upon the dry bankes, or borders which doe ſurround theſe Fennes, plaſhes, pits, & blanke-waters; fixing a Stale or two amongſt them which may intice the Fowle from the water to the dry Land, and upon the very brimme or edge of the water you ſhall pricke your Rods ſhoaling or ſloapewiſe over the water, ſo thick together, that a Fowle may not dreepe betweene them, but upon any approach to the banke that ſhe may take the Lime-rod with her. Theſe lime-rods (as the other formerly treated of for the greater ſort of Wild-fowle) you ſhall not need continually to watch and attend, for it matters not much in what ſort the Stales move, (becauſe their reſtraint

straint will make them busie enough,) only you shall come thrice a day to see what is taken, as earlie in the Morning, at high noone, and late in the Evening; neither shall you in any wise come without your water Dogge, for he is a maine instrument, and a servant of such use that without him in this place you shall loose halfe your gettings, therefore in any wise be ever sure to have him at your heeles; then comming amongst your Rods, if you finde any toucht and within your owne reach, you may gather them up, cleere them of the Rods and bag them, but if they be flutterd or fleike into any River, or deep sewer where you cannot come at them, there you shal send forth your Dogge to fetch them; also when you come & finde any of your lime-rods disordered, twitcht up and some borne away, but no Fowle to be perceived, then you may be assured that some are toucht but yet crepen away and hidden either in holes about the bankes, or in other covert adioyning: whereupon you shall call your dogge and make him hunt and search every corner, beating the coverts round about: and if there be any good-

nesse

neſſe at al in him you cannot loſe a fowle, for the lime is ſo ſtrong a ſent, that almoſt a man may follow it; thus when you have gathered what for that time is taken, you ſhall ſet all your Rods in order again, renewing all ſuch as are broken or ſpoyled, and ſo let them ſtand (as before) til your next time of coming; And thus you ſhall continue to doe as long as you finde the haunts fit for your purpoſe, but ſo ſoone as you ſee it beginne either to decay, or that the game goeth away, (for it is to be known, that theſe Fowle are ſo ſubtil and carefull of their owne ſafetie, that being much beaten upon, they will finde it and forthwith forſake the place) then you ſhall immediately hunt out a new haunt that is untroubled, and there doe as hath bin before declared, & then after a month or three weekes reſt, the firſt haunt will become as good as it was before; and ſo you may have ſport continually, nor at any time ſleepe without having your prey in your owne poſſeſſion; There are ſome which uſe to mixe with their Lime-rods and their Lime-ſtrings, laying a row of the one, and then a row of the other, by which meanes the Lime-rods ſtanding

much thinner are not ſo eaſily perceived nor give that offence to the Fowle which in their thick ſtanding many times they doe, whereby the skilfulleſt Fowler may ſometimes miſſe of his prey, and the courſe is not to be diſliked, for the taking is more ſafe and more certaine, yet it is more neceſſary and more generally to be uſed for the greater ſort of Wild-Fowle then for the ſmaller; And now by that way to ſpeake a word or two of the *Wild Gooſe* or *Barnackle* which commonly doe feede and haunt together, as they may be taken by the formes and inſtructions before reherſed, ſo they may the better and in more abundance be taken, if their crueſt and moſt uſualleſt haunts be applied; and therefore you ſhall know there is no better place or haunt to ſet your lime-rods in, for the taking of theſe kindes of Fowles, then as upon the greene Winter-Corne being Wheat or Rye; but eſpecially Wheat on which they feede moſt earneſtly, and by what meanes you ſhall chuſe the darkeſt and browneſt coloured Rods you can finde, and which is of neareſt colour unto the Earth, for though the blade may be ſhot vp above the Earth

yet

yet in the Winter time it covereth not the Earth, nor is the blade ſo twight that being neare, it is much diſcerned from the Earth, therefore as I ſaid, the darkeſt coloured Rods are the beſt; and theſe you ſhall place ſloape-wiſe upon the Lands, as was before declared for other dry places, and about the water Furrowes on every ſide & in the midſt, you ſhal place ſundry rowes of lime-rods ſo, as the foule may in no wiſe come to the water without the touch of them, and theſe Rods ſhall be of the largeſt and heavieſt, for the Fowle is of great ſtrength and will beare a little Rod cleane away; and from theſe Rods when you have plac'd them, you ſhal not be farr diſtant more then to avoyd trouble or ſuſpition of the fowle, (which by all meanes muſt be eſchewed) but ſtanding on ſome high knob or other raiſed ground farr off, marke when, where, and in what manner the Fowle lighteth, and if you finde any toucht or [illegible] which you may find by the ſodaine riſing of the reſt of the Fowle, and the fluttering and ſtrugling of them to riſe which are toucht and cannot? whereupon you ſhall make in, and if any halfe limed be

flecking away, let your Dog fetch them in whilſt you your ſelfe take vp the reſt, and thus you may paſſe from haunt to haunt till you be fully ſatiſfied in your pleaſure; alſo it is not amiſſe, if when you have plac'd your Rods, you beat the Fowle off from all other haunts, which will make them come the ſooner to that where your Rods are placed, and make your ſport much the quicker and more certaine.

CHAP: VI:

Taking Fowle with Engine, as Springes, &c.

THe next manner of taking of Fowle is with Engine or artificiall device, and is alſo appropriated and accommodated to both ſort of Fowle (as the others formerly treated of,) both particularly and generally, for there be ſome Engines which particularly take thoſe Fowle which cleave the foot,

foot, others which take those only which cleave not the foote, and others which take both sorts, as those which do cleave the foote, and those which doe not cleave the foote, and of these which are so generall are the greater number.

To speake then first of those Engines which take the Fowle which cleave the foote, they are the great and lesser Springes, which are thus to be made, and thus to be acõmodated; first knowing assuredly (as it is ever to be presupposed) the true haunts and place where the Flocks or couples of greater sort of Fowle doe usually feed both Evening and Morning, and noted well the furrowes and water tracts, where they usually stalke and padle to finde wormes, Flotte-grasse, rootes and other such like things on which they feede, you shall marke where many furrowes meete in one, and breake out as it were in one narrow streame or passage, and so descending afterwards divides it selfe into other parts and branches; this middle part or chore being the deepest, and as it were feeding the rest, then noting how every furrow breaketh and commeth into this Center or little pit,

Of the great Spring.

you ſhall marke which is moſt padled with the Fowle, or which is eaſieſt and fitteſt for Fowle to wade in, not being much deeper in water then the Fowle is from the eye to the bottom, or loweſt part of the beake, this paſſage found out and choſen, you ſhall take ſmall and ſhort ſtickes, and prick them croſſe-wiſe overthwart all the other paſſages, one ſticke within halfe an inch of an other, making as it were a kind of fence to guard every way but one, which you would have the Fowle to paſſe, and if theſe ſticks ſtand but above the water a handfull or ſomewhat more, ſuch is the nature of the foule that they will not preſſe over them, but ſtray about till they finde the open way, wherin they will runne ſwiftly up, padling up & down for their victuals; when thus you have hemmed out all waies but one, you ſhall take a good ſtiffe ſtick cut flatt on one ſide, and pricking both ends downe into the water make the upper part of the bought or flat ſide of the ſticke touch the water and no more; then you ſhall make a bow or bought of ſmall *Hazell* or Willow, made in the faſhion of a peare broad, and round at one end,

and narrow at the other, at leaſt a foote long, and five or ſixe inches wide or better, and at the narrow end a little ſmall nick or dent, then you ſhall take a very good ſtiffe young growne plant of Hazell, Elme, or Witchen, being ruſhie growne, and cleane without knott, three or fower Inches or better about at the bottome, and an Inch at the top, and having made the bottome end ſharpe, at the top you ſhall faſten a very ſtrong loope or ſwickell of about an hundred Horſe haires, platted very faſt together with ſtrong packthred, and made ſo ſmooth and yare that it will ſlip and run at pleaſure, and this ſwickell or loope, ſhall be of the luſt quantitie of the hoop, made peare-wiſe as was before mentioned, then hard by this loope or ſwickel, ſhall there alſo be faſtned with ſtrong *Horſe* hayre within an Inch and a halfe of the end of the plant, a little broad thin trycker, made ſharpe and equall at both ends after this proportion.

And then the bigger ſharpe end of the plant being thruſt and fixed hard into the ground, cloſe by the edge of the water, the ſmaller end with the loope and the tricker, ſhall be brought downe to the firſt bridge, and then the loope made pearewiſe being laide on the bridge, one end of the tricker ſhall be ſet upon the nicke of the hoope, and the other end againſt a nicke made on the ſmall end of the plate, which by the violence and bend of the plant ſhall make them ſticke and hold together untill the hoop bee moved; this done, the ſwickell ſhall be laide upon the hoope in ſuch faſhion as the hoope is proportion'd, then from each ſide of the hoope you ſhall pricke little ſtickes as aforeſaid, as it were making a very impaled path or high-way to the

the hoope, and as you goe farther and farther from the hoope or Springe, ſo you ſhall make the way wider & wider, that the Fowle may be entred a good way in before it perceive the fence; the beginning or firſt entrance being as wide as the largeſt furrow whatſoever, ſo that any Fowle falling neare the ſame, they may be enticed to goe and wade up the ſame, where they ſhall no ſooner touch the Springe either with head, foote or feather, but they ſhall preſently be taken, and that member ſwickled which firſt toucheth the *S*pringe; and according to the ſtrength of the plant, ſo you may take any Fowle how great or bigge ſoever; for I have my ſelfe taken a Faune in one of theſe Springes, which hath equall'd the ſtrength of any Fowle, & that by one legge onely, whereby it hath had the whole body to ſtrugle withall.

Now for the taking of ſmaller Fowle with this Engine, as the *Snipe*, the *Wood-cocke*, *Puett*, and *Lapwing*, or any other fowle which feedeth in mariſh and moiſt ground; or amongſt water furrowes, ſucking the fatnes of the ſoyle, the device and Engine is all one without alteration, onely

Taking ſmaller Fowle with Engine.

onely it may be of much leſſe ſtrength and ſubſtance, according to the Fowle it is ſet for, eſpecially the ſweaper or maine plant, which as it is preſcribed of Hazell, Elme, or Witchen, ſo in this caſe it may be of Willow, Sallow, ſtrong growne Ozyer, or any yeelding plant which will bend and give againe to it owne ſtraightneſſe; and this kinde of Engine is for the Winter ſeaſon onely, when much wet is on the ground, and not when the furrowes are drye; But if there happen any great froſts, ſo that you are lockt out from theſe ordinary waters, then you ſhall ſearch out where theſe ſtanding waters have any deſcents or ſmall paſſages, ſo as by the ſwift current or motion the water is not ſo apt to freeze, and in theſe places you ſhall erect your Springes, and where ſuch currents are not, there you ſhall as much as you can inforce and make them; for although the greater Fowle will packe to the River, and deeper running Brookes, yet theſe ſmaller Fowle cannot goe thither, but will labour and plye any place which is made or prepared for them, & the greater the froſt is, the ſooner and apter they are to be taken.

CHAP.

CHAP. VII.

Of the Fowling-peece, another engine.

THe next Engine to theſe is the Gun or Fowling Peece, wch is a generall Engine and may ſerve for any Fowle great or little whatſoever, for it hath no reſpect at what it ſtriketh, being within the levell: And of the Fowling piece you ſhall underſtand that to be the beſt which is of the longeſt barrell, as five foote and a halfe, or ſixe foote, and the boare indifferent, as ſome-what vnder Harquebuſh, for theſe hold the beſt charges, & carry the fartheſt level, which is a principall thing to be regarded, for Fowle are of ſuch a tickle and cunning nature, that a man ſhal hardly get within any indifferent or neare ſtation, and to ſhoote out of levell or diſtance were to ſhoote againſt the winde, and ſcarr-Crow like, onely

onely to affright Fowle with the loſs of labour; as for the shape or manner of it, tis better it be a fire-locke or Snaphaunce then a cocke and tricker, for it is ſafer and better for carriage, readier for uſe, & keepes the powder dryer in all weathers, whereas the very blowing of a coale is many times the loſſe of the thing aymed at; as for the charge, your round haile-shot or drop-shot, is better then the ſingle or double Bullet, and this haile-shot would be of bigneſſe according to the Game you shoot at, which if it be great and large, then it would be of twenty or thirty to a charge, or leſſe as the Piece will carry; but if the Game be ſmall, then it would bee of fortie or threeſcore, as shall seeme beſt in the diſcretion of the Fowler; Now for the uſe of this Fowling-piece, it is either for Land or Water that is paſſable, or may bee waded, as whether it bee in Fennes, uppon plash, or pits, or any other blank-water: and herein firſt the Fowler is to obſerve the finding out of his Game, and which Fowle lyeth fitteſt for his purpoſe, at no time ſtriving to shoote at a ſingle Fowle, if he can by any meanes

compaſſe

compaſſe more within his levell; then hee ſhall ſeeke as neare as hee can to ſhoote with the winde, not againſt the winde, and rather ſidewaies or behinde the Fowle then full in their faces: then hee ſhall ſeeke the conveniente ſt ſhelter hee can finde, as either hedge, Banke, Tree, or any other ſhaddow which may hide him from the gaze of the Fowle, for they are ſo fearefull of the proportion, viſage, or motion of a man, that upon the leaſt ſuſpition they are gone in a moment, and therefore when under his covert or pertiſion he is gotten, within his levell and hath the Winde fit and certaine, then hee ſhall make choyce of his marke, which (as before I ſaide) would in no wiſe be a ſingle Fowle, having more within your levell, but rather the longeſt and largeſt Rancke or File of Fowle you can finde, for ſince one ſhoote is as much as you can get at one time and in one place, it is meete you put it to as great uſe and profit as you can poſſibly, which done, you may inſtantly & ſpeedily diſcharge, and then ſend forth your Dogge to fetch what you have ſtrucken, both

at

as well thoſe which are ſlaine out-right as thoſe which are hurt and maymed; and being ſo as you cannot your ſelfe conveniently come by them: but by all meanes you muſt have your Dogge in ſuch true obedience, that hee may not ſtirre from your heeles, or let ſo much as his ſhaddow be perceived, till you have ſhot and your ſelfe bid him goe, for to ruſh forth too ſuddenly, or upon the firſt fire or clap of the Snaphaunce, though the piece goe not off (as many mad headed Currs will doe) is many times the loſs of very much good ſport; which to avoyd, ſuffer not your Dogge to ſtirre till you bid him; Thus as you doe upon theſe blanke waters, ſo you ſhal alſo doe upon the Brooks & greater Rivers, where if you have not ſhelter ſufficient by reaſon of the nakedneſſe of the bankes and want of Trees, then you ſhall creepe upon your hands and knees vnder the bankes, and lying even flat upon your belly, put the Noſe of your piece over the banke and ſo take your levell; for a Fowle is ſo wonderfully fearefull of a man, that albeit a *Hauke* were turning over her to keepe her in awe yet upon the leaſt ſhew of a man

man ſhe will riſe and truſt to her winges and Fortune.

CHAP. VIII.

Of the Stalking-Horſe an other Engine.

NOw for aſmuch as theſe ſhelters or coverts are after a way then found, and that Fowle do many times lye ſo farre removed within the water that vnleſſe a man doe goe into it where no ſhelter at all is, more then a man bringeth with him, he cannot poſſibly compaſſe a ſhoote; ſo that of neceſſity a man muſt have ſome moving ſhaddow or ſhelter to walke by him; In this caſe there is nothing better then the Stalking Horſe, which is any old Iade trained up for that uſe, which being ſtript naked, and having nothing but a ſtring about the neather chap, of two or three yards long, will gently, and as you have occaſion to urge him, walke up and downe

downe in the water which way you will have him; flodding and eating upon the graſſe or other ſtuffe that growes therein; and then being hardy and ſtout without taking any affright at the report of the Peice, you ſhall ſhelter your ſelfe and your Peice behind his fore-ſhoulder, bending your body downe low by his ſide, and keeping his body ſtill full betweene you and the Fowle; Then having (as was before ſhewed) choſen your marke, you ſhall take your levell from before the fore-part of the Horſe, ſhooting as it were betweene the Horſes neck and the water, which is more ſafe and ſure then taking the levell under the Horſes belly, and much leſſer to be perceived; the ſhoulder of the Horſe covering the body of the man, and the Horſes legges ſhaddowing the legges of the man alſo: and as thus you ſtalke upon the great blanke waters, ſo you may ſtalke alſo along the bankes of Brookes or great Rivers, by little and little winning the Fowle to as neare a ſtation as can be deſired, and thus you may doe alſo upon the firm ground, whether it be on Moor, Heath, or other rotten earth, or elſe upon the

ths tylthe where greene Corne groweth; or generally in any other haunt where Fowle are accuſtomably uſed to feede or abide.

And as you make uſe of this Stalking horſe, ſo muſt you not in any wiſe want your Water-dogge, for hee is as uſefull at this time as at any other, nor can you well doe any thing without him; eſpecially if it be upon Rivers or broad deepe waters, yet you ſhall have him at ſuch obediences that whileſt you are a ſtalking you may leave with him your Bagges, ſadle & bridle & other needments, where he may lye cloſe, and never ſtir till you have ſhot, & then upon the leaſt gybbet or call, to come running unto you, and to fetch forth what you ſhall kill, which with a ſmall practiſe he will doe readily and willingly after you have made him underſtand your minde, for they are creatures of wonderfull great capacity, and naturally inclyned to the ſport, ſo that being kept in true awe, there is nothing which they wil not with great readineſſe performe.

Severall Engines to ſtalke with

Now foraſmuch as theſe Stalking horſes, or Horſes to ſtalke withall, are not

ever in readineſſe, and at the beſt aske a good expence of time to bee brought to their beſt perfection: as alſo, in that every poore man or other which taketh delight in this exerciſe, is either not maſter of a Horſe, or if hee had one, yet wanteth fit meanes to keep him: and yet nevertheleſſe this practiſe of Fowling muſt or ſhould bee the greateſt part of his maintenance.

In this caſe he may take any pieces of old Canvaſſe, and having made it in the ſhape or proportion of a Horſe with the head bending downeward, as if hee graſed, and ſtopping it with dry Strawe, Moſſe, Flockes, or any other light matter, let it be painted as neere the colour of a Horſe as you can deviſe; of which the Browne is the beſt, and in the midſt let it be fixt to a Staffe with a picke of Iron in it to ſtick downe in the ground at your pleaſure, and ſtand faſt whileſt you chuſe your marke, as alſo to turne and winde any way you pleaſe, either for your advantage of the winde, or for the better taking of your levell, and it muſt be made ſo portable, that you may beare it eaſily with one hand, moving and

and wagging it in ſuch wiſe, that it may ſeeme to move and graze as it goeth; nether muſt this in any wiſe exceed the ordinary ſtature or proportion of a common Horſe; for to bee too low or little will not cover the man, and to be too big and huge, will be both monſtrous & troubleſome, and give affright to the Fowle, therefore the meane in this is the beſt meaſure, & only worth the obſervation.

The forme and manner of the Stalking horſe of Canvaſſe ſtopt.

Now these Engines are even better and more proper for the water then the Land, and though they will serve very fitly for both, yet are they more convenient for the Water, by reason that the Water hideth all their imperfectiõs, and maketh them appeare to the Fowle one and the same thing which at the first they did seeme.

The Horse unstopt.

Now there be some which doe not so well approve of this Horse thus stopt and furnish out, alledging it to be too heavy and troublesome, and though a man use all the Art that may be in the lightnesse thereof, yet still they say it is to weighty; and therefore they will by all meanes have them made of single Canvas unstopt at all, but onely strecht out upon splents made of wood, or upon strong wyre proportiond like vnto a Horse, wherein they vary nothing from the Figure formirly described, but onely in the stopping; for this and the other must be painted also, and that very thick too, lest in the turning it against the Sun it prove transparent, or so as a man may see through it, which will give such an offence to the Fowle, that they will in no sort endure it.

Also

Alſo you muſt obſerve in the Stalke to turne that ſide ever upon the Fowle which is plaine without ſplents, or other markes more then the painting onely for feare of offence, and theſe are as good as any live Horſe for this uſe being artfully handled in the motion, and made to move by ſlow degrees at leiſure, as a Horſe doth, and not ſuddenly or rudely, for that will diſcover them and bread affright in the Fowle.

The Oxe or ſhape of horned beaſts.

There be others which uſe inſteed of this Stalking Horſe of Canvas either ſtopt or unſtopt, to make the proportion of a beaſt or hornd Neat, as Oxe, Cow, or Bull in Canvas, as afore is ſhewed, either ſtopt or unſtopt, according to the fancy of the Fowler, and as he ſhall finde fitteſt for his ſtrength to ſupport and carry without any offence, and this figure he ſhall make in as true forme and proportion as he can deviſe, for the eye of a Fowle is ſo cunning, that they will eaſily perceive any groſſe abſurdity, or miſhapen, or unlike forme, and thereat quickly take offence, and avoid the thing deceiving; it ſhall alſo bee very well painted to the life, either

Blacke, Browne, or Pyde, acording to the uſuall colours of the cattell in thoſe places; for though blacke and browne are generally the beſt, becauſe of their ſhaddow, yet in ſuch places where no ſuch Blacke or Browne cattell are, or at leaſt very gayſon or novell, there they are the worſt colours, and ought leaſt to be uſed; for your Engine muſt ever bee ſutable to that wherewith the eye of the Fowle is moſt acquainted, nor muſt you alone ſtand preciſely upon the colour, but alſo upon every other face or maine character, by which the whole body is diſtinguiſhed; as in fixing the Hornes, which muſt ever be ſutable to the colour of the Beaſt and the breed of the Countrey, for it is commonly ſeen here with us in *England*, that your entire blacke, your browne, and your brended Cattell have ever the goodlieſt Heads and fayreſt extended Hornes, the whiteſt & the largeſt, and your whiteſt pide, and blood-red Cattell the leaſt Heads, crumbled, ſhort, and foule coloured; Therefore to make your Engine blacke, browne, or brended with ſhort crooked & ilfavor'd Hornes, or white or pyde, with great, ſtraight

ſtraight and large ſpred Hornes, were both an abſurdity to be laught at, and a prevention of the ſport you labor for, by affrighting the Fowle out of your company with that, by which you ſhould intice them only to ſtay & grow familiar with you; and therefore you muſt accommodate every thing in his true and proper nature, without ſtrangeneſſe or offence. Nor may you in any ſort ſtalke with theſe Engins in any place but where theſe Cattel are uſuall and in moſt abundance, for to ſtalke with a Horſe where no Horſes live or are bred, or with the Oxe, where no Oxen are known, is abſurde and loſſe of labor, but this is no doubt in our Nation, therfore the beſt uſe I can give you of theſe Engins, is that when you have ſo much beaten the Fowle with the *Stalking-Horſe*, that they begin to find your deceit, and will no more fit or indure you, as generally it falls out, then you may an other while ſtalke with the Oxe or Beaſt, till the Horſe be forgotten, and thus by the change & alteration of your Engins you may make your ſport laſt & be continually, for the ſhape of your Oxe Engine, it followeth in the next page. The

The forme and manner of an Oxe Engine.

Now there bee others without a further curiosity (and indeed it is nothing at all to be discommended) which frame themselves Engines like Stagges, or red Deere, and these also they frame of canvasse as the former, either stopt or unstopt, with the naturall hornes of Stags fixed thereon, and the colour painted so lively,

lively, that the Fowle may not diſcerne them from a *Stagge* or a thing that is living, and theſe Engins are right good and very vſefull in all ſuch places or low fenney ground where any ſuch Stagges or Deere doe uſually feede; as about *Hatfield Chaſe* in the North parts, or *Ramſey* in Huntingtonſhire and ſuch like, where the Stagge is more familiar with Fowle, and feedeth neerer them then either the Horſe or the Oxe; and therefore this Engine being artificially & well made is of as good uſe as any of the former Engines, and will indeed bring a man within a farre neerer diſtance; onely it is ſubject to quicker diſcovery, and therefore it muſt be the oftner altered and changed to prevent the ſubtilitie of the Fowle: as for the proportion or forme of this Engine it is placed in the next page.

The

The forme and manner of the Stagge Engine.

Now there bee ſome that will onely but make the moulds or models of the heads of theſe beaſts onely, and putting them upon their owne heads ſo ſtalke therewith, holding opinion that it is but onely the face of the Man which is dreadfull, and breedeth affright in the Fowle, and

and that if it be hidden in any of the formes before ſhewed, a man may winne his ſport at pleaſure.

I doe confeſſe it is the face of a man which keepeth all living things in the greateſt awe, and that the face being covered or concealed a man may proceed better in theſe paſtimes, but that it ſhould worke this great effect, and be as uſefull as the former models, I utterly deny and differ from; for the very body of man is too well known unto Fowle, that when ſoever it is mixt with any unnaturall forme or monſtrous ſhape, it preſently cauſeth amazement, which amazement though it may a little hold the Fowle at gaze, whereby the man may come at a much neerer diſtance; yet before the marke can be choſen and the levell taken, commonly the aſtoniſhment waſteth away, and feare entring the minde, the Fowle ſuddenly ariſeth before the piece can be diſcharged: And therefore though I well allow that the face of the man ſhould be covered with ſome hood or other garment, which may be rather ſhadow-like then monſtrous; yet I would noth ave him to Stalke with theſe mo-

dells

dells of heads onely, without ſome thing elſe to overſhadowe ones body and goe by them.

Laſtly the skilfull Fowler muſt underſtand that theſe Engines of what kinde ſoever, are fitter for the early morning Stalke or the late evening Stalke, then at any other time of the day when the *Sunne* is aloft or in his high glory, for at ſuch time the leaſt blinke or deformity is very ſoone perceived, and the naturall feare of the Fowle is moſt prone and apt to raiſe up by thougts and feares, whereby they are forced to riſe vp and flye away before that the skilfulleſt man can finiſh his purpoſe, or recover his marke or levell.

There are other dead Engines to Stalke withall? as an artificiall Tree, Shrubbe, or Buſh, which may bee made of ſmall Wandes, or thinne Splinters, folded together in the ſhape or body of a Tree, and ſo coverd with Canvaſſe and painted like the barke of the Tree repreſents or figures; of which the Willow, Poplar, or ſuch as growe by Waters and Rivers ſides are the beſt; for the other which grow upon the drye grounds

grounds, as Oake, Elme, & the like, are not ſo familiar with fowle, & therefore by the ſtrangeneſſe may occaſion affright, and for the leaves it is not much materiall, becauſe this time and ſeaſon of Stalking after Fowle is for the moſt part in the winter ſeaſon when leaves are from the trees: But let it bee at any ſeaſon that you pleaſe, either in Sommer or in Winter, having made the boale of the Tree, as afore is ſaid, with Canvaſſe and Wands, you ſhall in certaine holes made on the toppe for that purpoſe, ſticke in the boughes and true naturall branches of the Tree which you would figure in ſuch ſort as they growe at that ſeaſon, ſo you ſhall give no affright or terrour to the Fowle; and the Tree will appeare after this forme or figure following.

The

The forme and manner of the Tree to ſtalke with.

As for the Shrubbe or Buſhe, it ſhall not be ſo tall as the tree, but much thicker, which you may make either of one entier

entire Buſhe, or of divers Buſhes woven and intrangled one within another either with ſmall Withy wandes, Coard, or Packthreed, that may not bee diſcerned, and this ſhall not be above the ordinary ſtature of a man, but thicker then foure or five men, and in the midſt of the bottome ſhall bee a ſmall ſtake driven with an Iron picke in the ende, ſomwhat longer then the Buſhe, which being driven into the ground may ſupport & ſtay up the Buſhe whileſt you take your mark and finde your levell, according to this forme and figure following.

The

The forme and manner of the Buſh Engine to ſtalke with:

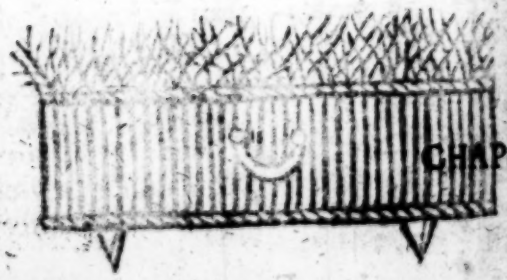
The laſt of theſe ſtalking Engins is the dead hedg of two or three yards long, and a yard and three quarters hye, made of ſmall wands in the manner of a true hedge, and buſht out with twigges, leaves and ſuch like as hedges are, and with certaine ſupports or ſtayes, where-

by

by not onely to beare it from the ground at your pleaſure, but alſo to ſtay and hold it up whileſt you doe finde your marke and take your levell, according to the forme and manner of theſe figures following.

The forme and manner of two ſorts of Hedges to ſtalke With.

Now for these dead Engines which carry not the shape of any living creature, they are not altogether so necessary for the stalke as the Stand, because the onely thing that can discover them, or breedaffright from them is their motion, for to have a dead thing move too grosely is much unnaturall, and the Fowle will not onely apprehend it, but eschew it: therefore by all meanes you must be carefull not to move them at all, but to lye at the stand watching behinde them; or if you doe move them, to doe it like the hand of a Clocke, with such slow and still motion, that you may gaine your purpose unperceived, and then it is as safe a way as any of the other before prescribed.



CHAP.

CHAP. IX.

The use of the Water-Dogg, and the manner of trayning them.

THe Water-Dogge is a creature of such generall use and so frequent in use amongst us here in England, that it is needlesse to make any large description of him: the rather since not any amongst us is so simple, that he cannot say when hee seeth him, This is a Water-Dogge, or a Dogge bred for the Water; yet because in this (as in other creatures) there are other Characters and Formes which pretend more excellencie, and figure a greater height of vertue then others doe; I will here describe as neere as I can the best proportion of a perfect Water Dogge.

First, for the Colour of the best Water Dogge, allbeit some (which are curious

The description of the Water-Dogg.

rious in all things) will aſcribe more excellency to one colour then to another, as the Blacke to be the beſt and hardeſt, the Lyver-hued ſwifteſt in ſwimming, and the pyed or Spotted Dogge, quickeſt of ſent; yet in truth it is nothing ſo, for all colours are alike, and ſo a Dogge of any of the former colours, may be excellent good Dogges, and of any, may bee moſt notable Curres, according to their firſt ordering and trayning; for Inſtruction is the liquor wherewith they are ſeaſoned, and if they bee well handled at the firſt, they will ever ſmell of that diſcreſion, and if they bee ill handled they will ever ſtinke of that folly: For nature is a true miſtreſſe and beſtowes her guifts freely, and it is onely nurture which abuſeth them.

To proceede then, your Dogge may be of any colour and yet excellent, and his haire in generall would be long and curled, not looſe and ſhagged; for the firſt ſhewes hardneſſe and ability to endure the water, the other much tenderneſſe and weakeneſſe, making his ſport grievous; his head would be round and curled, his ears broad and hanging, his

Eye

Eye full, lively and quicke, his noſe very ſhort, his Lippe, Hound-like, ſide and rough bearded, his Chappes with a full ſett of ſtrong Teeth, and the generall features of his whole countenance being united together would be as a Lyon like as might be, for that ſhewes fiercenesſe and goodneſſe: His Necke would bee thicke and ſhort, his Breſt like the breſt of a Shippe, ſharpe and compaſſe; his Shoulders broad, his fore Legs ſtreight, his Chine ſquare, his Buttokes rounde, his Ribbes compaſſe, his belly gaunt, his Thyes brawny, his Cambrels crooked, his poſterns ſtrong and dewe clawde, and all his foure feete ſpatious, full and round, and cloſed together to the cley, like a water Ducke, for they being his oares to rowe him in the water, having that ſhape, will carry his body away the faſter. And thus you have the true deſcription of a perfect Water Dogge, as you may ſee following.

Now for the cutting or shaving him from the Nauill downeward, or backward, it is two wayes well to be allowed of: that is, for Summer hunting, or for wager: because these Water Dogges naturally are ever most laden with haire on the hinder parts; nature as it were labouring to defend that part most, which is continually to bee employed in the most extremity, and because the hinder parts are ever deeper in the water then the fore-parts, therefore nature hath given

ven them the greateſt armour of haire to defend the wett and coldneſſe; yet this defence in the Summer time by the violence of the heate of the Sunne, and the greatneſſe of the Dogges labour is very noyſome and troubleſome, and not onely maketh him ſooner to faint and give over his ſport, but alſo makes him by his overheating, more ſubject to take the Mangie.

And ſo likewiſe in matter of wager, it is a very heavy burthen to the Dogge, and makes him to ſwimme leſſe nimbly and ſlower, beſides the former offences before received; But for the cutting or ſhaving of a Dogge all quite over, even from the Foot to the Noſtrill, that I utterly diſlike, for it not onely takes from him the generall benefits which Nature hath lent him, but alſo brings ſuch a tenderneſſe and chilneſſe over all his body, that the water in the end will grow irkſom unto him; for how ſoever men may argue that keeping any creature cold, will make it the better indure cold, yet we finde by true experience both in theſe and divers other ſuch like things, that when Nature is thus continually kept at

her uttermoſt ability of indurance, when any little drope more is added to that extreamity, preſently ſhe faints, and growes diſtempered, whereas keepe Nature in her full ſtrength and ſhe will very hardly be conquered, and hence it doth come that you ſhall ſee an ordinary land Spaniell, being luſtily and well kept, will tyre twenty of theſe over ſhaven Curres in the could water: whereas let them have the rights Nature hath beſtowed upon them, and the water is as familliar unto them as the Land any way can be: therefore to conclude this poynt I would have the skilfull Fowler, if he keepe his Water-Dogge onely for his vſe of Fowling as to attend his Nets, Limerods, Fowling-piece or ſuch like, which is only for the moſt part apropriate to the Winter ſeaſon, then not to ſhave his Dog at all, for hee ſhall find in the ſharpe froſt and ſnow, when the Ayre ſhall frize the drops of water faſter on the hayre then the Dogge can caſte them off; that the vttermoſt benifit that Nature hath granted, is no more but ſufficient, and the carefull Maſter ſhould rather ſeeke to increaſe then deminiſh them.

Now

Now for the manner of trayning or bringing up of his Water Dogge, it is to be vnderſtood that you cannot beginne too early with him, that is to ſay even when you firſt weane him, and teach him to lappe, for even then you ſhall beginne to teach him obedience, which is the maine thing that includeth all the leſſons which hee ſhall learne, for being made to obay your will, hee is ſerviceable for any Purpoſe you ſhall imploy him in, as one the contrary part, wanting due obedience hee is good for nothing at all but to ſpoyle the worke you ſhall labour to effect; and therefore (as I ſaid) ſo ſoone as it is able to lappe, you ſhall teach it to couch and lye cloſe, not daring to ſtirre or move from that p ſture in which you put it, without your eſpeciall licenſe, cheriſhing it ever when it doth your will and correcting it when it doth the contrary, and alwayes obſerving this maxime in the firſt teaching of him, that you never let you Drgge eate or taſte any meate but when he doth ſomething to deſerue it, that coſtome may make it know foode is a thing which cometh not by chance, or the bounty of your hand,

but

but for reward or merit when he doth your commandement; and this will not onely make him willing to learne, but apt to remember and retayne what hee learneth, and diligently to performe your pleasure without sticke or amazement, the characters of your commands, being so deepely imprinted in his knowledg: and to this end you must have no more teachers, no more feeders, cherishers, or correctors but one, for multiplicity breeds confusion, and to teach divers wayes is to teach no way well: also you must be very constant to the words of directions by which you teach, chusing such as are the most significant for your purpose, and fittest for the action you would have the Dogge doe, and by no meanes alter that word which you first use, though you use a word of the same signification: for you must understand the Dogge takes notice of the sound and not of the English, and therefore the least variation puts him into amazement, and is a language he understands not; as thus for example: If when you teach your Whelpe first to Couch, you use the word (*Couch*) if after

after you uſe the word (*Downe*) and not Couch, it will put the Dogge into amazement and he will not know what to doe: And how ever ſome hold of opinion it is good to uſe all ſorts of words, yet it is not ſo, for the overloading of the Doggs memory with many words for one and the ſame leſſon, is the firſt thing that breeds forgetfulneſſe, and fils the Dog full of by-thoughts and doubtfullneſſe: when you have the Dogge thus acquainted with the word which is due to the inſtruction of his leſſon, you muſt then teach him to know the word of reprehenſion or correction, for no leſſon can be taught without a fault, and no fault ought to eſcape at the beſt without chiding; and in this word alſo you muſt be as conſtant as in the former, without variation of ſound or multiplycity of language, that the Dog may know aſſuredly when you chide, or are angry, and not ſtand amazed between hope and feare, as not knowing whether you chide or give encouragement; and of theſe words there are divers; as *Wilt thou villain, Ha Ratkall*: and ſuch like, which at firſt ſhould not bee vſed without a ſerke

or

or ſmall ſtripe, to make him knowe that it is a word of wrath and anger, neither muſt ſuch words proceed from you lovingly and gently, but with paſſion and roughneſſe of voice, that the Whelpe may even tremble when hee heares you: Now to theſe words of reprehenſion you muſt alſo joyne words of cheriſhings, that as the one correcteth him for faults commited; ſo the other may encourage and comfort him as oft as hee doth your pleaſure: and in teaching theſe dume things, correction may better be ſpared then cheriſhing, becauſe the reward and comfort he findes by doing your will, is the onely certaine and ſure ground which expounds your meaning unto him, and makes him capeable of thoſe things you would have him learne; and in theſe words alſo, you muſt be as conſtant and certaine as in any of the other without variation or change of ſound, allacrity and cheerfullneſſe of ſpirit, being accompanied either with food, the ſpitting in the moush, cheriſhing of the hand, or other clawings in which the Dogge taketh delight, that he may know by ſuch comforts hee hath

truely

truely done your will, and bee thereby encouraged to doe it as oft over as you ſhall bee pleaſed to command him: And theſe words of cheeriſhing are alſo divers; as Thats a boy, Well done, So boy, and ſuch like as ſhall beſt agree with your nature and invention.

And to theſe three you ſhall adde a fourth word, which is no leſſer neceſſary then any of the former, being neither altogether inſtructive, altogether correcting, nor altogether cheriſhing: but taking as it were a part from them all, and doing ſomething of them all in one inſtant and one breath, and this may bee called the word of advice or heed taking, being onely to be uſed when a Dogge is about to doe his Leſſon and either goeth the wrong way to worke, or too raſhly, too ſlowly, or too negligently; or elſe leaveth out ſome obſervation which hee ſhould performe in the Leſſon, any of which aſſoone as you perceive him incline unto, you ſhall immediately uſe your word of advice unto him, which both as a bit ſhall ſerve to reſtraine and ſtay him, till he have better thought of what he goeth about, or elſe as a Spurre

or

or Rod, put him forward with more alacrity of ſpirit, till hee have done his Leſſon in ſuch form as may content you, and theſe words of advice are as the others, divers alſo: as Hem, Be-wiſe, take-heed; or ſuch like, and to theſe you muſt be as conſtant as to the former, and make election of that you intend to uſe and no other, and by all meanes be exceeding careſull not to miſapply them, as to adviſe when you ſhould correct, cheriſh when you ſhould adviſe, Inſtruct when you ſhould puniſh, or puniſh when you ſhould inſtruct, any of which is groſſe in a teacher and brings the Dog into confuſion.

When therefore youhave made your whelpe underſtand theſe ſeverall ſounds or words, as that of Inſtruction, Correction, Cheriſhing, and Advice, and that he wil couch and lye downe at your feet how you pleaſe, when you pleaſe and as long as you pleaſe, and that with a ſingle word or a looke onely, you ſhall then proceed and teach him to leade in a line and collar, following you at your heeles in decent and comely order, nether treading upon your heeles, or going

ing before or ſide by you which ſhewes too much haſt, nor hanging backe or ſtrayning your Line by the meanes of too much ſloth, but following in decent and orderly manner without offence either to the Dogge or his leader, and this kinde of leading is to make the Whelpe familiar with you, that he may love and acknowledg you and no man elſe, in which leſſon when you have made him perfect by his daily attendance of you, and by going into no place without the Dogge, you ſhall then make him attend you looſe, in the ſame manner as he did in the Line, without ſtraying or going his length from your heeles unleſſe you command him, which is the moſt neceſſary Leſſon can be taught a Water-Dog, for he muſt by no meanes be a ranger, but upon eſpeciall occaſion, as either to beate out Fowle from their covert, or to finde ſtrucken Fowle when they are loſt. When this generall obedience is taught (which is done by obſervation of his going, and moving him by ſights or ſports which may tempt him to ſtay beyond his bounds, and then to correct his offences, and to cheriſh and

reward,

reward his obedience, you ſhall then teach him to fetch and carry any thing you ſhall throw forth of your hands, and this you ſhall firſt beginne to teach by the way of ſport or paſtime with the Dogge, as by taking your glove and ſhaking it about his head and lips, and making him catch and ſnap at it, and to play with it as a thing in which he delighteth, and ſometimes to hold it in his mouth and ſtrive to pull it from you, and then caſting it a little way from you ſuffer him to muſſell and wory it one the ground, and then take hold on it againe and take it from him with cherriſhing, and thus doe till he will take it from the ground, and hold it in his mouth as it were to tempt you to take it, then caſt it further from you and ſay *Fetch*, or *Bring Sirra*, and if he doe bring it you, make exceding much of him and reward him either with Bread, or Meat, and let him have no foode but what he deſerveth by doing your will in his Leſſon, and thus daily and howrely augmnet & increaſe your Leſſon, till you have made your Dogge ſo perfit that he will fetch your Glove unto you whereſoever you throw it,

it : In which if at any time hee offer to runne way with your Glove, or to toſſe it up and downe, and play with it without regard to bring it unto you; then firſt uſe your word of adviſe, which if it doe not prevaile, then uſe your word of correction, but if both faile, then give him blowes, and for that time let him loſe his foode and finde no reward till hee doe your pleaſure: when by this meanes you have perfected him, that hee will fetch your Glove quickely and readily unto you, whereſoever you throwe it, and ſo truely underſtand that it is his duty to bring it onely unto you, that if twenty men in the company call him ſeverally, yet he will ſhun them all to bring it unto you, and leap up to your boſome to deliver it, you ſhall then reward him exceedingly, and after traine him to fetch whatſoever you ſhall throw from you, as Staves or Cudgels, Bagges, Nets Inſtruments of all kindes, and indeed any thing whatſoever that is portable: then you ſhall uſe him to fetch round cogell ſtones, and flints, which are troubleſome in a Dogge mouth, and laſtly, Iron, Steele, Money, and all kinde of me-

tall which being cold in his teeth, slippery and ill to take up, a Dogge will be loth to fetch, but you must not desist nor let him tast food, till he will as familiarly bring and carry them as any thing else whatsoever: as for the using him to carry dead, or live Fowl, or Pullen, it is not amisse, because by that meanes he will not break or tear in pieces any Fowl at all, which fault is intollerable in any Dogge whatsoever, and proceedes from too much greedinesse, but in the use thereof let him ever bring the least Fowl you can get without hurt, that if you send him for a Larke, he may bring it without bruising a feather. This lesson thus perfected, you shall then as you walk, drop something behind you which the Dogg may not see, and being gone a little way from it, send the Dogge back to seek it, by saying, Back, I have lost, or some such like word, and if at the first he stand amazed, urge him stil and cease not, by pointing with your finger the way you would have him go, till he doe turn back and find that which you have dropt, which make him take up and bring after you; then drop it again

and

and go twice as farre as you did at the first, and then send the Dog back to seeke it, not leaving til you make him hunt & bring it you, then cherish and reward him, and where he failes, there chide and punish him, somtimes with blowes, sometimes with want of food, and thus continue to do till the Dog wil hunt the way back in which you went, be it a mile or more according to your occasion: and herein is to be noted, that if you send your Dog back to fetch any thing, if hee return and bring back any thing in his mouth, though it be not the thing you lost, yet you shall receive it and cherish him, but not suffer him to stay, but immediately send him back again, saying, Away again, or I have lost more, & never be satisfied till he bring the thing you want; for the much toile will be punishment enough for his mistake, and make him more careful to the sent of any thing about you; but if at any time hee return without any thing in his mouth, then be sure both to chide and beat him, for his emptines of mouth shews both sloth and negligence: when he will thus fetch, carry, and find things being lost, then you

may traine him to hunting, beginning first with tame Fowle, which by your owne helpe at diving and other losses, you may make him with little labour, take, which incouragement will hearten and make him delight in the sport then after you may make him use all his owne cunning, and without assisting him, let him either get or lose his prey, observing to give reliefe according to his desert in wel hunting, and to punish him with want of reward according to his sloth or negligence; and thus woont him till he bee full master of his game, and can finde the advantages and losses in every water, and observing ever to make him (when he taketh his prey) to bring it on shoare unto you without bunting, and that he shall not dare to nyppe or bite it, after once you shall say Forbeare, or Tis dead, or any such like thing whatsoever.

Of the Tramel.

After this you shall traine him unto you peece, in forme as was shewed in a former Chapter, making him stalke either step by step behinde you and under the covert of your shadow, till you have shott, or else to couch downe and lye close

cloſe where you ſhall appoint him till you haye ſhot, and then by a ſhout or gibber to make him come running unto you to doe whatſoever you ſhall appoint him; and in this you muſt obſerve that the Dogge by no meanes ruſh forth or diſcover himſelfe til you appoint him, for it is the nature of every free mettle Dogge, and many of thoſe which come from the beſt reputed teachers, that aſſoone as they heare the peece goe off, they wil preſently ruſh forth and flye in amongſt the Fowle before you can haye leiſure to open your lippes: but it is a fault and to be reprehended, for the peece muſt not bee as a warning to give the Dogge liberty, but as a preparation to make him readie to attend your commandement: for if you give him this liberty at your peece, then when you come amongſt your Nets or Lyme-rods, as ſoone as hee ſees the intangled Fowle but to flutter their wings, he will preſently flye in amongſt them, and not onely adventure the ſpoyling and tearing of your Netts, and diſordering your Lime-roddes, but alſo breake them in pieces, and breede you a world of trouble and

vexation, and therefore by all meanes have him in that true obedience that he may not dare to take any freedom more then you give him.

There are a world of other lessons which may be taught a Water-Dogge, but because they do appertain more to pleasure, or the commendation of the Teachers art and the Doggs capacity then any needful use or commodity, I will here, for brevity sake omit them, assuring every industrious laborer in this Art, that the rules here already described are sufficient to make a dog do any thing meet for any mans purpose.

Of the moulting time.

The last use of the water-Dogge is in the moulting time, when these wild Fowl do cast their feathers and are so disabled, that they cannot flye, but do lurk and hide themselves in the strength of their best coverts, not daring to peep or look abroad, which commonly is betweene Summer and Autumne, in these warmer Countries, at this time you shall bring your Water-Dogs and thrusting them into the coverts, make them hunt the Fowl forth, and bring them into the open waters or great streams, then having

ving in ſome narrow creek or ſtraitned place (if it be in the broad blank waters) pitcht up your nets, get with your boats between the covert and the Fowle, and ſo taking up your doggs; with all leiſure and gentleneſs drive the Fowl before you (who of their own natures, will ſhun your preſence) till you bring them within the compaſſe of the nets, and then ſurrounding them about, you may overthrow multitudes of them together, for ſheepe will not drive more eaſily then theſe Fowl at this time; and though ſome may object againſt this manner of taking, both in reſpect it deſtroies ſo many, as alſo the unſeaſonableneſs both of the Fowle it ſelf, and the time of their ſickneſſe, yet if ſuch pleaſe to conſider the great infinits of theſe Fowl which cannot decreaſe & the excellency of the time for feeding and cramming them, whereby one is made more excellent then twenty; they cannot chuſe but both allow it and practiſe it, for who knoweth not that any Fowl which preyeth for it ſelf abroad, except it be the Mallard, Teyle, and Plover, but is a great deal leſſe ſweet and pleaſant then the cramb'd Fowle, ſome taſting of Fiſh,

ſome of mudde, and ſome of graſſe, and indeed not any in general, either very fat, or very pleaſant; whereas theſe which are thus taken and fed by hand in the houſe, and there cramb'd with food in which they moſt delight, as the Livers of Beaſts and ſheep, Whay, Curdes, Barley, Paſt, ſcalded Branne, and ſuch like, are both paſſing fat, exceeding ſweet, and of great price, and therefore to be prefer'd before all other Fowl whatſoever.

CHAP. X.

Of Land-Fowl, and the generall taking of them:

HAving now diſcourſed of Water-Fowl, and their ſeveral kinds according to their manner of feeding, haunts and ſhapes. It reſteth now that we proceed to the diſcourſe of Land-Fowl, or Birds of the Land having

ving no commercement or uſe of the Water more then the waſhing of their Bylls, or particular bathings for the health of their bodies, and that but ſeldome or in diſtinct times and places, as an Element with which they have the leaſt deſire of acquaintance: And of theſe Land-Fowl there are more divers and ſundry kindes then of the Water-Fowl, and indeed ſuch infinits, that ſince the diſſolution and ſpoyle of Paradiſe no man hath ſeen them, no man can name them.

Diverſity of Land-Fowle.

To flye then from an impoſſible treatiſe (becauſe every nation hath his particular bleſſing, and none can boaſt to injoy all) I will ſort the Land-Fowle of our Kingdome into three rankes: the firſt ſuch as are fit for food, as Pigeons of all kinds, Rooks, Pheaſants, Partridge, Quailes, Railes, Blackbirds, Felfares, Sparrowes, and a world of others.

Secondly, ſuch as are preſerved for voice, and are called ſinging Byrds, as the Nightingal, Throſtrel, Linnet, Lark, Bulfinch, Spink, and divers of the ſame nature, all which are good in the diſh alſo.

Thirdly

Thirdly and laſtly, all ſuch as are for pleaſure onely, as Hawks of all kindes, Caſtrells, Ringtailes, Buzzards, Kites, & generally all birds of prey, which in truth are uſefull but for pleaſure onely; Now each of theſe kindes may be drawn into two ſeveral kinds, as the greater ſort & the leſſer ſort, the greater ſort of thoſe for food, and the leſſer alſo for food, and ſo conſequently of the reſt in their natures and kinds.

Diverſity of takings. Now theſe Land-fowl are to be taken two ſeverall waies; that is to ſay, generally, as when all or many kinds are taken together, and at one inſtant; and particularly as when one kind is taken alone by it ſelf after a particular form & manner, and no others mixt amongſt them.

The generall way of taking fowl. Now for the general way of taking theſe Land-Fowl where many kinds are taken together, it is either to be done by day or by night; if by day, then with the great Net which commonly is called the Crow-net, which either is made of double twiſted thred or fine whip-pack-thred, and it differeth nothing in length, depth, higneſſe of maſh, manner of laying and overturning from the Plover-

The Crow-Net to take by day

Net

Net formerly ſpoken of in the Water Fowle; only if it be larger and the coard longer it is not amiſſe, this Net being before or neere unto Barne doores where Corne is a thraſhing, or in any ſuch places where Corne hath beene winnowed and the chaff remaining, with which you ſhall ever obſerve to cover and hide the Net aſſoone as it is laid ſo as it may not be ſeen, and then aſſoone as the flocks of birds come, and are ſcraping amongſt the chaffe, you lying aloof off concealed, with the coard in your hand ſhall ſodenly draw it & overturne the Net upon the Birds, by which at one pull you may take may Crowes, pigeons, Kites, Buzzards, and ſuch like ravenous birdes; and this net you may lay in any ſtubble field upon the Corn lands, provided the ſtuble cover the Net ſo as it be not perceived, for theſe kind of ravenous Fowl are curious eied and who will quickely ſpye any traine or inticement that is layd for them; alſo if you take notice of their morning and evening haunts, where they uſe to call and gather themſelves together, to worme and feede upon the greene-ſwarth, or elſe the tylthe which hath

beene

been but newly turned up, and there lay this Net ſo as it be not too groſly perceiv'd, and it is as vailable as in the other places, ſo that you be carefull of two obſervations, the one to conceale and hide your Perſon, as in ſome furrow, behind ſome artificiall banke, or amongſt the thick tufts of Sedges, or ruſhes, or ſuch like covert, and the other not to be too raſh or haſty in ſtriking, but to ſtay till you have a full number within your danger, and then to pull freely, ſodainly, and quickly, for the leaſt deliberation you take after the net is once rayſed, is the utter loſſe of the whole prey; and as a warning-piece make them flye the danger.

Generall taking by Night.

If you exerciſe this generall manner of taking of Land-Fowle by night, then it is to be done divers waies, according to the nature and manner of the Country wherein you dwell, or the ſituation and faſhion of the ground, as whether it be champain and plain, or woody, rough and Mountanous

Of the Low-Bell.

The firſt general manner of taking of Land-Fowle by night, in Champaine Countries is with the Lowbel, which exer-

exerciſe may wel be uſed from the end of *October* till the end of *March* following, as thus for example.

After the night hath covered the face of the earth, (which commonly tis about eight of the Clock at night) the Ayre being mild, and the Moon not ſhining, you ſhall take your Low-Bell, which is a Bell of ſuch a reaſonable ſize, as a man may well carry it in one hand, and having a deep, hollow, and ſad ſound, for the more quick and ſhrill it is, the worſe it is, and the more ſad and ſolemne the better: and with this Bell, you ſhall alſo have a net (of a ſmall maſh) at leaſt twenty yards deep, and ſo broad, that it may cover five or ſix ordinary Lands or more, according as you have company to carry it, (for the more ground it covers, the more is your ſport, and the richer the prey that is taken,) with theſe inſtruments you ſhall go into ſome ſtubble field, either Wheat, Rye, or Barley, but the Wheat is the beſt, and he which carrieth the Bell ſhall goe the formoſt, and toll the Bell as hee goeth along, ſo ſolemnly as may be, letting it but now and then knock on both ſides, then ſhall

follow

follow the Net being borne up at each corner, and one each side by sundry persons, then another man shall carry an old yron Cresset, or some other vessell of stoue or yron in which you shall have good store of finders or burning coales (but not blazing) and at these you shall light bundles of dry Straw, Hay, Stubble, Linkes, Torches, or any other substance that will blaze, and then having spread and pitcht your Nette where you thinke any Game is (having all your lights blazing) with noyses and poles beat all up that are under the Net, and then presently as they flicker up, you shall see them intangled in the Net, so as you may take them at your pleasure: as Partriges, Rayles, Larkes, Quailes,, or any other small Birdes of what kind soever, which lodge upou the ground; which done you shall suddenly extinguish your lights, and then proceede forward and lay your Net in another place, observing to doe in all things as hath beene before described, for the use of these Instruments are, that the sound of the Bell makes the Byrdes to ly close, so as they dare not stire or offer to remoove away

whileſt

whileſt you are pitching and laying of your Net, for the ſound thereof is dreadfull unto them, and makes them lye cloſer and faſter; then the ſuddenneſſe of the blazing light (which they can farre worſe indure then the Bell) makes them ſpring up and offer to flye away, whileſt the Nette ſtayes and intangles them, whereby you may take them at your owne will and pleaſure.

And in this ſort the Countrey being apt and fit for the paſtime, you may take abundance both of great Birdes and likewiſe of ſmall Birdes, which though the pleaſure be a little painefull for the time, yet you ſhall finde infinite dleight therein, for every man ſhall have ſomething to doe, and no man ſhall ſtand idle that either hath ability of body or ſpirit.

This taking of Birdes with the lowbel as it is uſed thus in the corne and ſtubble fields, ſo it may alſo be uſed in any other Champaine place, where either there is growing high fogge or graſſe, Whynnes, Bratts, Lynge, ſhort and low Graſſe, or any other kind of low covert wherein

wherein Birds may lodge and hide themſelves; provided that ſuch places have no Trees, or high rough Thornes, buſhes or brambles, for ſo you ſhall intangle and teare your Net in pieces, and loſe both your ſport and your labour.

Alſo in this paſtime is to be obſerved that it muſt be done with great ſilence and ſecrefie, not any noyſe being heard but the ſound of the Bel onely, until ſuch time that the Nets be layd and the lights are all blazing, and then you may uſe your pleaſure, but aſſoone as the lights are extinguiſhed, then preſently a general ſilence ſhal be made as before: and each man ſhall apply his ſeveral buſines t ll the ſport be finiſhed, and ſo much of the Night conſumed, as you ſhal imagine meet to beſtow on that Labour, which may be as long as the Night is darke, but no longer, for if the Moone riſe, whereby the Birds may make way for themſelves, then they will hardly lye till your Nettes or other Engines be readie, for the very noyſe of your feete in going will be ſufficient to affright them.

There is another way of taking both of great and ſmall Fowle, by Night in Cham-

Champaine Countries, and that is with the Tramell, or long Tramel Net, being much like unto that Nette which is formerly diſcribed for the Lowbell, both in ſhape, maſh, and all other proportions, yet if you pleaſe it may bee ſomewhat longer but not much broader, becauſe then you ſhall be forſt to runne upon it and indanger the breaking.

This Nette when you come into the place where the haunt of Birds are, which reſt upon the earth (being ſuch as are before named) you ſhall then ſpread it upon the ground, and let the neather or furtheſt end thereof (being plummed with ſmall plumets of lead) lye looſe on the ground and then bearing up the former ende, by the ſtrength of men at the two formoſt ends onely traile it along the ground, not ſuffering that ende which is borne up to come neere the ground by a full yard or more.

Then one each ſide the Nette ſhal bee carried great blazing lights of fire, ſuch as were formerly ſpoken of, and by the lightes others with long poales to beate up the birds as they goe, and as they riſe under the Netts ſo to take them; and in

this sort you may goe ovet a whole corne Field, or any other Champaine ground where the haunts of Birdes are, til you have compassed every part thereof. And this will most assuredly afford you great store, both of pleasure and profit, according as the haunts of the Birdes are, for if there be plenty, you shal take plenty, if there be few, yet of those few you shal have your share.

Of Bat-fowling.

Next to the Tramel I thinke meete to proceed to Batte-fowling, which is likewise a night-taking of al sorts of great and smal Birdes which rest not on the earth, but on Shrubbes, tal Bushes, Hathorne trees, and other trees, and may fitly and most conveniently be used in al Woody, rough, and Bushy Countries, but not in the Champaine.

For the manner of Bat-fowling, it may be used either with Nettes, or without Nettes: If you use it without Nettes (which indeede is the most common of the two) you shall then proceed in this manner. First, there shall be one to cary the cresset of fire (as was shewed for the Lowbell) then a certaine number as two, three, or foure (according to the

greatneſſe of your company) and theſe ſhall have poles bound with dry round wiſpes of Hay, ſtraw, or ſuch like ſtuffe, or elſe bound with pieces of Linkes, or Hurdes dipt in pitch, Roſen, Greaſe or any ſuch like matter that will blaze.

Then another company ſhal be armed with long poales, very rough and buſhy at the upper ends of which the Willow, Byrch, or long Hazell are beſt, but indeed acording as the Country wil afford ſo you muſt be content to take.

Thus being prepared and comming into the Buſhy, or rough ground where the haunts of Birds are, you ſhall then firſt kindle ſome of your fires as halfe, or a third part, according as your proviſion is, and then with your other buſhy and rough poles you ſhall beat the buſhes, Trees and haunts of the Birds, to inforce them to riſe, which done you ſhall ſee the Birds which are rayſed, to flie and play about the lights and flames of the fier; for it is their nature through their amazednesſe, and affright at the ſtrangenes of the light and the extreame darkneſſe round about it not to depart from it, but as it were almoſt to ſcorch their wings in

the ſame; ſo that thoſe which have the rough buſhye poales, may (at their pleaſures) beat them down with the ſame, & ſo take the. Thus you may ſpend as much of the night, as is darke, for longer is not convenient; and doubtleſſe you ſhall finde much paſtime, and take great ſtore of Birds, and in this you ſhall obſerve all the obſervations formerly treated of in the Lowbell; eſpecially, that of ſilence, vntil your lights be kindled, but then you may uſe your pleaſure, for the noyſe and the light when they are heard and ſeene a farre off, they make the Birds ſit the faſter and ſurer.

The byrds which are commonly taken by this labour or exercciſe, are for the moſt part, the Rookes, Ringdoves, Blackebirds Throſtles Feldyfares, Linnets, Bulfinches, and all other Byrdes whatſoever that pearch or ſit upon ſmall boughes or buſhes.

Of the Sparrow Net.

This exerciſe as it may be uſed in theſe rough, woody and buſhie places, ſo it may alſo be uſed alongſt quickſet hedges or any other hedges or places where there is any ſhelter for Byrdes to pearch in.

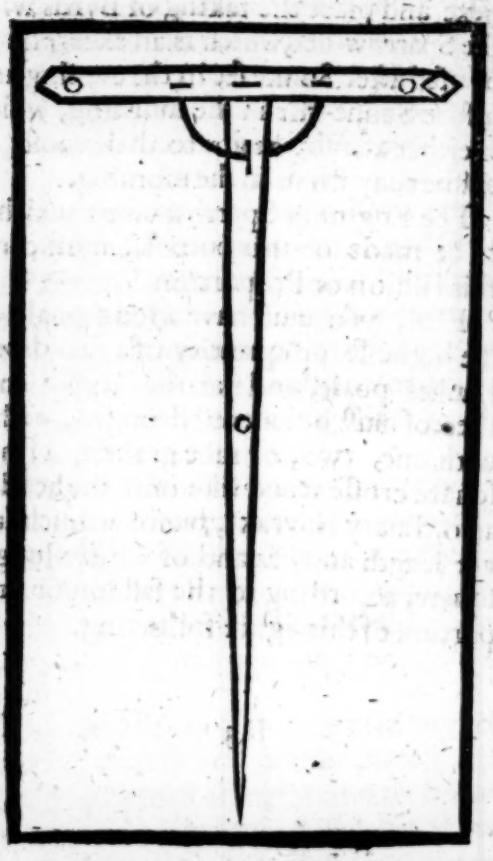
Next

Next to the generall takings of Birds in the darke of night, either in Champaine or woody ground, wee may annexe and place the taking of Byrds with the Sparrow net, which is an excercise to be used after Sunne set in the evening and before Sunne-rise in the morning, which is either after birds goe to their roust, or before they stirre in the morning.

The Engine or Sparrow-nette which is to be made for this purpose, must carry this fashion or Proportion.

First, you must have a long poale of the bigneſſe or quantity of a handſome Haukes poale, and at the upper ende thereof must be fastened ſtrongly, either with one, two, or moe graines, a ſmall ſquare croſſe wood like unto the head of an ordinary Hayrake, but of a much larger length and ſize and of a little longer ſquare, according to the fashion or proportion of this figure following.

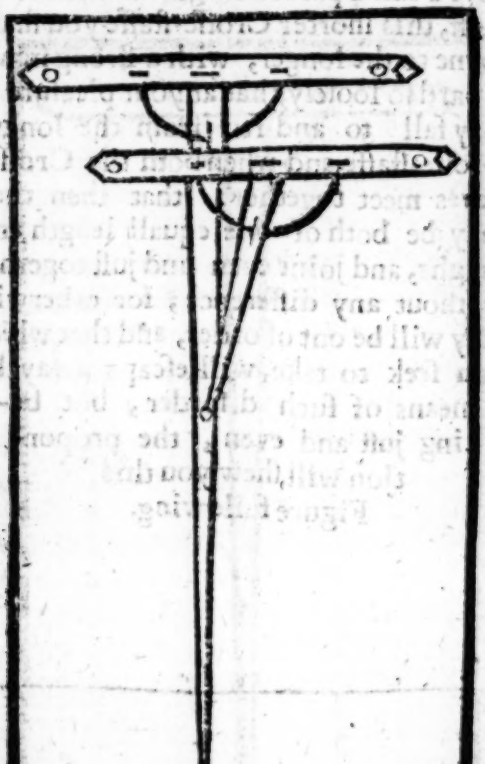
The forme and manner of the first Crosse-staffe.



Then you ſhall make another ſtaffe in all proportions like unto this, but not above a third part in length at the uttermoſt, this ſhorter Croſſe-ſtaffe you ſhall joyne to the longer, with a ſtrong ſmall Coard ſo looſely, that at your pleaſure it may fall to and fro from the longer Croſſe-ſtaffe, and when both the Croſſe-ſtaves meet together, that then they may be both of one equall length and height, and joine even and juſt together without any difference; for otherwiſe they will be out of order, and that which you ſeek to take, will eſcape away by means of ſuch diſorder, but being juſt and even, the proportion will ſhew you this Figure following.

The

The forme and manner of the ſecond Croſſe-ſtaffe.



Theſe

These two Crosse-staves being thus ioyned together even & fit to meete together, you shall then both to the one & to the other, fixe a large & wide purse-net having that liberty at the toppe that the Crosse-staves may fall and part the one from the other a pretty distance, and the lower ende of the Nette shall bee straite and narrow, and fastened fast to the same hole in the longer Crosse-staff, to which the shorter Crosse-staffe was before fastned, then shal you have two small coards or lines, which with knots shall be fastened to each ende of the shorter Crosse-staffe passing through the two holes, and so through the holes of the longer Crosse-staffe, through which they may goe and come at your pleasure, and then shall the other two ends of the wards be tyed on a knot together, at such an even distance that the shorter staff may fal at your pleasure from the longer as farr as you thinke meet or the widenes of the Net wil suffer it, and then another single ward being made fast to that last knot of the to cords (which single ward you shal ever carry in your right hand) with it you shal at your pleasure drawe the Crosse staves close together,

together, and close up the net as you shall finde occasion, and also with it you shall make the staves and Net flye open, & widden as the place shal require where you are to set it; for you must have great regard in the using of this Engine ever to place it close, for if you leave any part open either by too much slackness, or the whole haunt not covered by too much straightness, the Birds will quickly find it, and so escade and get away before you can come to your purpose. But every thing being made handsome and fit, and the Lines yare and ready to passe to and fro with ease and gentleness, then will the whole and intire Engine, carry the fashion and proportion of this figure which here followeth.

The forme and manner of the Sparrow-net.

Now

Now for the use of this sparrow-Net, is (as wa- before said) to be used late in the Evening, or early in the morning, by seting it against the Eves of thatcht Houses or other houses, or against the eaves of *S*tackes, Hoveles, Barnes, Stables, and other out-houses, or against the eaves of Dove-coates, and being set close against them, to knocke and thrust the Crosse-staves close against the same, making such a noyse as may inforse the Birds to fiye out of their holes & haunts into the *N*et, and then presently to draw the longe single Line and shut up the Crosse-staves close, and then to take out the Birds so taken, and in this manner you may in an Evening, or else in a Morning, goe over all your Houses, Barnes or Stacks, where are any haynts of Birds, and take so many as you please, The Birds which are generally taken with this Engine, are Sparrowes Robins, Wrens, Starlings, extravagant Pydgions, that lye out of the Dove-Coate, or any other Fowle, or vermine which passeth in or out, at any one certaine hole or passage.

The chiefe benefite of it is for the mewing

mewing of Haukes, or giting into luſt and ſtrength, ſicke and weake Haukes, for with this Engine you may Evening, and Morning take ſo many Birds as you pleaſe, and no more: and ſo give them warme to your Hauke, which is the greateſt nouriſhment that can be, and both raiſeth a Hauke ſoone, and makes her mew faſt, becauſe they are as it were taken out of their owne neſt, and from their owne liberty and freedome of feeding, whereas Birds that are taken longe before they are uſed, and ſo preſerved day after day for theſe uſes, they mourne and fall away, growing leane, unſavery, and unholeſome, and the Haukes fedd and nouriſht there with, proſper but litle better then with ordinary Dogges fleſh, or other fleſh that is left nouriſhing.

And thus much for Land-Fowle and the generall taking of them, as well by day as by night; Evening, or Morning.

CHAP.

Chap. XI.

The particular taking of ſome particular Birds by Nets, and firſt of the Day-Net.

HAving ſpoken generally of Land-Fowl or Birds, and of the moſt generall waies of taking the ſame, either by Day, Night, Morning, or Evening; it is meet more that we proceed to ſuch particular waies of taking them as is moſt of uſe, both with our Fowlers in this Land, as alſo with others in other Nations, and being moſt agreeable with Art, and Reaſon, without which hardly ſhall any man bring his work or indeavours to any good purpoſe.

It is meet then, firſt that wee begin with the Day-Net, whoſe uſe are eſpecially for the taking of Larkes, Buntings, Mer-

Merlins, Hobbyes, or any Bird that playeth in the Ayre, or will ſtoop either to ſtale, prey, or gigge, glaſſe or the like.

The time of the yeare for theſe Netts, is from *Auguſt* till *November*, and the hower or time a day, very early in the Morning, as a little before Sunne riſe, ſo as your Netts may be layd, and all your Engines and implements fit and in readineſſe to begin your labor, with the firſt peepe of the Sunne, wherein is to be noted, that the pleaſanter and brighter the Morning is, and the fairer and earlier that the Sunne ſhineth, and the milder temper the Ayre is in, the fitter the ſeaſon is for this exerciſe, and the longer and better your ſport will continue. *Time of the year and ſeaſon.*

For the place, it would be ever in the moſt Champayne and playne Countryes, either on the ſhort Barley Stubbles, (the Lands) lying large and playne, on even and ſmooth greene layes, or on levell and flat Meddowes, for it is to be underſtood, that the place which is to be choſen for this exerciſe muſt be ſo plaine and even, that the Nets both lying and falling over, may couch ſo cloſe and firme to the ground, that the ſhorteſt *The place.*

graſſe

Graſſe or Stubſe appearing through the ſame, the Nette may lye as it were hidde and unperceived by the Byrdes which ſhall play over the ſame, as alſo there muſt be no hollowneſſe, or ſeperation betwixt the Earth, and any part of the verdg of the Net, leaſt the Birdes which are ſticken, creep and flicker out of the ſame, (as they will quickly doe) upon the leaſt aduantage; and this place muſt not bee choſen neare or adjoyning to any Towne, or common courſe and meeting of many People, (for there theſe wanton, fearefull Birds ſeldome haunte) but in remote and ſilent places, as in valles or ſikes, at the foote of hills or mountaines, in lowe Meddowes, or other higher grounds, being a good way diſtant from villages, yet having ever ſome Corne fields neare bordering upon them; for there the Larke ſings merrieſt, and is apteſt to ſtrike and be Inticſt with any Stale whatſoever.

The faſhion of the Nets and other Engines.

Now the next thing to bee obſerved, is the manner and faſhion of theſe Nets, which we call Day-nettes (becauſe they are of uſe but in the day onely) and of all the other engines belonging unto the ſame

ſame, and without which the worke can in no wiſe be made perfect.

Firſt then for the Nets, you ſhall underſtand that they are to be made either of very fine ſmall packthred, or elſe of very ſtrong and bigge Houſwifes thred, the maſh ſmall, and not above halfe an inch ſquare each way, and the knots ſurely knit without ſlipping, the length would be three fadome (or little leſſe,) and the depth or bredth, would be one fadome and no more; it carryeth the faſhion of the Crow-Nette and muſt be verdg'd about (after the ſame manner,) with very ſtrong ſmall Cord, and the two ends extended upon two ſmall long poles, (ſutable to the bredth of the Nett,) in ſuch manner as hath been ſhewed before in the Nett for the taking of plovers, and other Fowle of that Nature, with foure ſtakes, tayle ſtrings, and drawing lines as hath beene before deſcribed, only whereas that was but one ſingle Nett and no more, here muſt bee two, of one length, one bredth, and one faſhion; without any change or alteration, theſe Nets muſt be layd oppoſite one to another, yet ſo cloſe and even to-

gether, that when they are drawne and ful'd over, the ſides and edges may meete and onely touch one another; but being opened and caſt aſunder, then the full length and bredth of both the Nets, of plaine ground muſt be diſcovered betweene them.

Theſe Nets being thus ſtakt downe with ſtrong ſtakes, very ſtifly upon their lynes, ſo as with any nimble twitch, you may caſt them to and fro at your pleaſure, you ſhall then to the upper endes of the formoſt ſtaves faſten your hand-lines or drawing Cords, which would be at the leaſt a dozen fadome long, and ſo extending them of ſuch a reaſonable ſtraightneſſe, as with any ſmall addition of ſtrength, they may rayſe up the Nets and caſt them over, ſtake downe the further end of the ſingle drawing Line, almoſt a fadome beyond the ſeate where your ſelfe muſt ſit to pull, for you muſt underſtand that theſe drawing Lines are not double above two fadome or little more, and all the reſt ſingle, as you ſhall better perceive by the figure, hereafter demonſtrated.

When your Nets are thus layd, you ſhall

ſhall ſome twenty or thirty paces beyond your Netts, and as much on this ſide, place your Gygges, or playing wantons; being faſtened to the toppes of long poles, and turned into the winde, ſo as they may play and make a noyſe therein, and theſe Giggs are certaine toyes made of long Gooſe feathers in the manner of ſhettlecocks, and with little ſmal turnells of wood running in broad and flat Swan quilles made round like a ſmall hoope, and ſo with longer ſtrings faſtened to the Pole, will with any ſmall winde or ayre whatſoever, twirle and flicker in the ayre after ſuch a wanton manner, that the Birds will come in great flockes to wonder and play about the ſame; the more perfect ſhape thereof you ſhall ſee deſcribed in the figure following, for the better helpe of your memory and underſtanding in this buſineſſe. *Of the Gigges*

After the placing of your Giggs, you ſhall then place your Stale, which is a little ſmall ſtake of wood to pricke downe faſt in the earth, having in it a morteiſe hole, in which a long, ſmall, ſleader piece of wood of about two foot long is ſo faſtned, that it may move up and downe *Of the Stale.*

at pleaſure, and to this longer ſtick, you ſhall faſten a ſmall line, which running through a hole in the ſtake aforeſaid, and ſo coming up to the place where you ſit, you may by drawing the line up and down unto you (with your right hand) raiſe and mount the longer ſtick from the ground, as oft as you ſhall find occaſion.

Now to this longer ſtick (before ſaid) you ſhall faſten a live *Lark* or *Bunting*, (for you muſt be ſure ever to preſerve ſome alive for that purpoſe) or for want of ſuch, any other ſmall bird, which the line making to flicker up and down by your pulling, will intice the Larks to play about it, and ſwoop ſo near to the ground, that drawing your hand you may cover them with your Nets at pleaſure; alſo it will intice Hawks, and any other birds of prey to ſtoop and ſtrike at the ſame, ſo as you may take them at your pleaſure, with great eaſe and delight; and for further ſatisfaction you ſhal ſee the portraiture hereof more lively deſcribed in the figure following.

Of the Looking-Leſſe.

There is alſo another Stale or intice-ment for theſe Birds, which is called the

Looking-

Looking-glaſſe, & this is a round ſtake of wood as bigge as a mans arme, and made very ſharpe at the nether ende, ſo as you may thruſt and faſten it into the earth at your pleaſure. This ſtake is made very hollow in the upper part, above five fingers deep at the leaſt, then into this hollownes is placed a threeſquare piece of wood about twelve Inches long, and each ſquare two Inches broade, lying upon the toppe of the ſtake, and going with a foot into the hollownes, which foot muſt have a great knob at the top, and another at the bottome, with a deep ſlenderneſſe betweene, to which ſlenderneſſe muſt be faſtned a ſmall packthred, which running through a hole in the ſide of the ſtake, muſt come up to the ſeate where you ſit: Now the three-ſquare piece of wood which lies on the top of the ſtake, muſt be made of ſuch a true poyze and evenneſſe, and the foot in the ſocket, ſo round & ſmooth, that upon the leaſt touch it will twirle and turne as round as any Scopperill, winding the packthred ſo many times about it, which being ſodenly drawne, and as ſodenly let goe againe, will keepe the Engine in

a perpetuall round motion, in ſuch ſort as you ſhall ſee Children, and Schoole-Boyes doe with wherligiggs, made of a Nutt, a ſticke, and an Apple. This done, you ſhall with glew, or other ſtrong Cement, faſten upon the uppermoſt flatt ſquares of the three ſquare pieces, almoſt twenty ſmall pieces of Looking-glaſſes, & paynt all the ſpare wood betweene them, of a very bright red colour, which in the continuall motion and turning about, will give ſuch a glorious reflection, that the wanton birds cannot forbear but will play about it with admiration, til they be taken, the true ſhape wherof you ſhall ſee more exactly in the next figure. Now both this & the other ſtale before ſpoken of are to be placed in the very midſt or Center betweene the two Nets, & about 2 or 3 foote one diſtant from another, ſo that in the falling of the Nets the Gords may by no meane touch or annoy them; neither muſt they ſtand one before or after another, but in a direct Line one over againſt the other, the Glaſſe being kept continually moving, and the bird very oft flickering. When you have thus placed you Nets, your Giggs, & your ſtales,

you

you ſhall then goe to the further end of your long drawing lines, & ſtale lines, & having a little haſſock made of Sedg, about a foot or better high you ſhal place within a yard or litle more of the end of the ſame, & then ſitting down upon the ſame, lay the maine drawing line (with a ſtrong button of wood made faſt in the ſame) overthwart your thigh, & with your right hand continually draw the Glaſſe-line, & with your left hand pull the Stale-line to ſhew the bird, & then when you perceive the Larkes, or other Birdes to play neare and about your nets & ſtales, ſwooping neare and to the ground, then you ſhal with both hands pull the net over, and ſo cover & take your prey, in ſuch wiſe as you ſhal find occaſion, wherin you are to obſerve, that you muſt not be too quick or haſty in pulling, & for greedines to ſtrike often at ſingle birds (eſpecially if you ſee the weather to be temperate, & the birds apt to play) for ſo you may loſe both much labour and much profit, for you muſt take as much paines for one ſingle Bird, as for halfe a dozen, but nevertheleſſe be patient a little while, and when you ſhal ſee many birds

playing about your Nets (as with a little ſufferance they wil almoſt cover them over) then you may ſtrike and be ſure to ſtrike ſure and ſuddenly, and you ſhall ſeldome take under foure, ſixe, eight, nay, ſometimes a dozen at a pull, according to the fruitfulneſſe of the place, and the aptneſſe of the weather and ſeaſon; but if the wether be ill diſpoſed or bluſtring, then you muſt make a venture of neceſſitie, and ſtrike at all that comes, whether they be ſingle or otherwiſe; and truely for mine owne part, I have ſeen at this one exerciſe, thirty dozen of Larkes taken in one Morning, but that hath not been uſuall: but for eight, tenne or twelve dozen, it is an ordinary takin.

Preſervation of Stales:

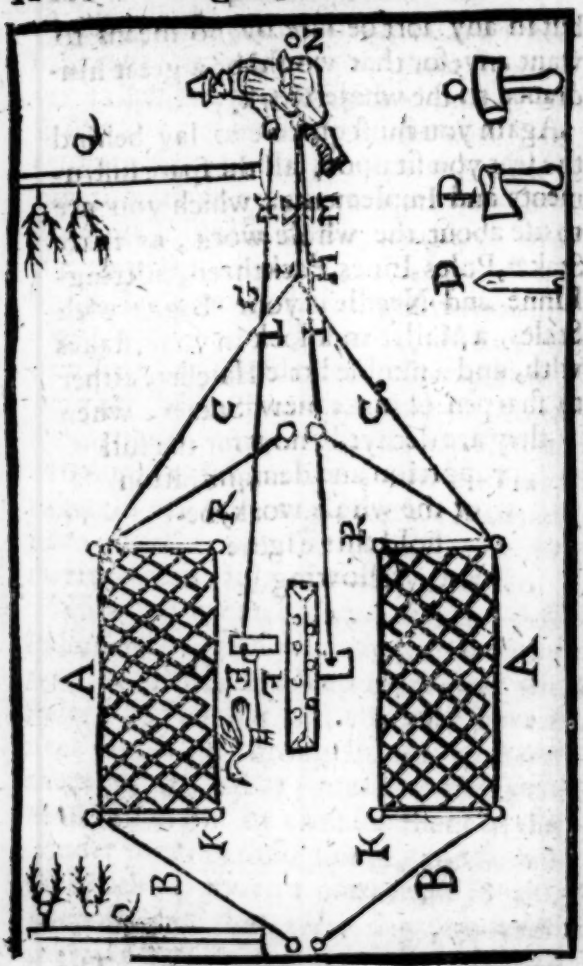
Now you are to obſerve, that the firſt halfe dozen which you take, you muſt by no meanes kill, but keep them alive for ſtales, and to that end you muſt have a neat bagge of ſtrong linnen to keep them in, the reſt as you take them, you muſt kill them, by cruſhing them in the hinder parts of their heads, and ſo lay them behind you in a place made for the purpoſe, and thus every day you muſt preſerve freſh ſtales and kil the old ones,

but

but in any ſort be ſure by no means to want any, for that would be a great hindrance to the whole work.

Again you muſt obſerve to lay behind the ſeat you ſit upon, all the ſpare Inſtruments and Implements, which you are to uſe about the whole work, as ſpare Stakes, Poles, Lines, Packthred, knitting-Pinne and Needle; your Bagge with Stales, a Mallet to knock in your ſtakes with, and a nimble little Hatchet, either to ſharpen or make new Stakes, when they are decayed: now for the full proportion and demonſtration of the whole work, behold this Figure following

The



For

For the better understanding of this Figure, if you please to note the letters as they stand, you shall finde that the Letter----

A. sheweth the bodies of the maine Nets, and how they ought to be layd.
B. the taile-lines, or hinder lines stacke to the Earth. (Earth
C. the fore-lines likewise stacke to the
D. the knitting-Needle.
E. the Bird stale.
F. the Looking-glasse Stale.
G. the Line that drawes the Bird-Stale.
H. the Line which drawes the glass-stale.
I the drawing double Lines of the Nets which pulls them over.
K. the Stakes which stake downe the foure nether points of the Netts, and the two taile-lines. (Lines
L. the stakes which stake downe the fore-
M. the single Line with the wooden button to pull the Net over with.
N. the Stake which stakes downe the single Line, and where the hassock should be, and the Man sit.
O. the Mallet of Wood.
P. the Hatchet. *Q.* the Gigges.

And thus you have the manner & full description

deſcription of the Day-Netts, with their uſe and benefit.

Taking Birds with Limebuſh.

I will now proceed to another manner of taking other ſmall Birds, as Hedg-Sparrowes, Linnets, Bullfinches, and all ſorts of ſmall Birds, which haunt Hedges, Buſhes, Shrubs, or any covert whatſoever in the open Field, which Birds are for two uſes, namely, either pleaſure or food, pleaſure, becauſe every one of them naturally, have excellent Field-Notes, and may therefore be kept in Cages, and nouriſht in their owne tunes, or elſe trayned to any other Notes, according to the pleaſure of the owner, or elſe for food, being of pleaſant taſte, and exceeding much nouriſhing, by reaſon of their Naturall heat, and light diſgeſtion.

The ſhape of the buſh

Theſe Birds are beſt to be taken with the great Lime-Buſh, or Lime-Tree after this manner. You ſhall cut downe the mayne Arme or chiefe Bough of any Buſhie Tree, whoſe branches, or twigges are large, thick, ſmooth, and ſtraight, without prickes, knots, or other crooked and deformed roughnes, of which the Willow-tree or Byrch Tree, are

are the beſt, and for want of them you may take the great Sallow, the Poplar, Aſpen, or any other of like thickneſſe, and ſmoothneſſe, and when you have pickt it, and trimd it from all leaves, knots, crooked branches, moſſe, or any other ſuperfluity, making the twigges neat, and clean, (yet not taking away any of the little naturall budd knots, which grow thick on every branch) you ſhall then take of the beſt Lime, well mixed and wrought together, either with Hogges-greaſe, Gooſe-greaſe, or Capons-greaſe (but the Gooſe or Capons is the beſt) and being warmed a little, you ſhall with the ſame, Lime every twigge and branch upon the Tree, from the very toppe and upper end of every twigge, down (within foure fingers or there-about) to the bottom. As for the body and maine branches of this Tree, (from whence the ſmaller twigges do ariſe) thoſe you ſhall not touch with any Lime at all. *The manner of Eyming.*

Now in the Liming of this Tree, you ſhall obſerve, not (by any meanes) to dable your Lime on too thick, whereby it may be too much apparent, for *Obſervation in Lyming.*

the

the birds will be apt to find fault thereat, and then you ſhall not by any intiſement traine them to your Buſh, wherefore make ſure to ſpread your Lyme ſo thinne as may be, even ſo as you may little or nothing change the colour of the naturall twigges, which may with great eaſe be done, by working one twigg with another, and one branch with another, and by making thoſe which have too little Lime, to take it away from thoſe which have too much, till each have equally alike, and yet in this manner of Liming, you are to obſerve, that not any twigge want his ſufficient proportion of Lime, nor have any part left bare and untoucht (which ought to be toucht) but that all be truely and artificially deſcribed; for as too much may hinder the comming of the Birds, ſo too little will want ſtrength to take them, when they do come.

The uſe of the buſh. When your Buſh is thus prepared, and Limed, you ſhall then carry it forth into the Field, (for it is intended that this Tree ought not to be in any wiſe above a mans uſuall and reaſonable burthen,) and finding where the haunts of theſe

ſmall

ſmall Birdes are, which in the Spring-time commonly is about quickſet hedges, or dead hedges, neare unto Townes ends, back-yards, old houſes, or any other coverts and habitations where people reſort. In the Summer and Harveſt, in Groves, Buſhies, white-thorne Trees, and quickſet-hedges neare Corne fields, fruit trees, Vineyards, Flax-lands, Hemp-lands Rape-lands or the like, and in the dead of Winter about Houſes, hovells, Barnes, Stacks or any place where either Corne, ſeeds, or any chaffe or gabling is ſcattered, (for it is to be intended that this uſe of the buſh wil continue the whole yeare through) you ſhall then as neare as you can to any of theſe haunts, place your Lime-buſh, as if it be a hedg, then cloſe by the hedge, if a Tree then cloſe to the Tree, if a ſtacke, within a Pace or two of the ſtacke, and ſo of the reſt, provided alwayes that whereſoever you pitch downe your Buſh, you may ever at the foot therof, or as neare as is poſſible, have ſome cloſe Covert where your ſelfe may ſit concealed, and unperceived of the Birds, and in ſuch manner that whatſoever ſound ſhall proceed from you,

it

it may ſtill ſeem to the Birds to come from the Buſh.

Of the Byrd call. When theſe things are thus prepared, and your ſelfe placed, you ſhall then if you can (and the Art is eaſily learned) with your lipps and tongue begin to chirp like a Sparrow and to call as they doe when the Cock and the Hen are removed one from another; then you ſhall with another note (more whiſtle-like) call like the Linnet, or Bulfinch, altering your notes as your fancy pleaſeth, yet ever and anon calling continually in one note or other.

How to call Birds. Now for aſmuch as this Art is a little hard and curious, and that no words in writing can expreſs the true ſound thereof, or ſhew the motions, ordering, or ſounds which muſt proceed from the lippes, tongue, and breaths; it is meet that he which is ſtudious, and would be skilfull in this Art, do goe into the Field where theſe Birds do haunt, and there marking their notes, chirps, and whiſtles, practiſe as near as he can to counterfeit the ſame, till he be growne to that exquiſite perfectneſſe therein, that he may perceive the Birds to gather about

bout him where he lyes, and ſitting on the branches above him, harken and liſten to the ſounds he uttereth, this when he perceiveth, he may conclude him ſelfe an abſolute Maſter in the Art, and then take upon him to goe abroad with the great Lime-Buſh doing in all poynts as hath beene before recited: But if either nature or accident doe denie you this cunning, and that by no meanes you can frame your Lipps or Tongue to theſe ſounds, (as I have knowne divers, that could never in all their lives learne to whiſtle, others that could never learne to tune,) then you ſhall either make or buy a Byrd-call, of which there are divers, and very eaſie to be framed, ſome of wood, ſome of horne, ſome of Cane, and ſuch like ſtuffe; the full proportion and making whereof, ſhall be at large ſet down hereafter in a particular Chapter.

The manner of taking.

With this Call (having learnt artificially how to uſe it) you ſhall ſit under your Buſh and call the Birdes unto you, and as any of them ſhall light upon your Buſh, you ſhall let them alone, and not move till you ſee them ſafely intangled,

with their owne skipping up & downe, and ſtrugling when they find themſelves ſnſnared wil doe better, then any affright from you whatſoever, neither ſhall you ſtirre for a ſingle Bird, one, or two, but ſtay till many be intangled, for the firſt that are taken will with their ſtriving & fluttering in the Buſh, bee as good as ſtales, & make a world of others repaire unto them. Now aſſoone as you doe perceive your Buſh to be peſtered, you ſhall then riſe up and take all ſuch as are intangled, & either nip them in the heads, or put them alive into a bagge at your pleaſure, and according to the purpoſe for which you intend them; and this exerciſe you may uſe from before Sunne riſe, till tenne of the Clocke in the forenoone, and from one in the afternoone, till almoſt Sunne-ſette in the Evening, in which ſpace, I have ſeene twenty dozen of Birdes taken, and ſometimes more, ſometimes leſſe, according to the ſeaſon of the weather, (which would be cleere and bright,) or the fruitfulneſſe of the hauntes in which the Byrdes harbor.

There be others which take theſe ſmall Byrds with Lime-twiggs only, (and not with

with the greate Buſh) by riſing early in the Morning before the day break, and going to the hauntes, watch when the Byrdes goe forth to ſeeke their food, (which is ever at the ſpring of the day) and then finding that they have forſaken the Hedges, they goe and place their Lime-twiggs all along the Hedges, ſome upright, ſome ſloape wiſe, and ſome croſſe, and there withall of ſuch a convenient thickneſſe, that the Birds can come no way into the Hedge, but of force they muſt be intangled: this done, they goe into the Corne Field, Meadowes, or Grounds which are adioyning, & where the Birdes doe feede, and there beating them up and ſcaring them, make them retyre to the Hedges in great flocks and drafts, into which they are no ſooner entred, but preſently they are intangled amongſt the Lime-twigges, and ſo taken in great abundance,: But this manner of taking ſmall Birds, is not ſo generall as the former, for it is but for one certaine time of the yeare, as in the Spring, and fall of the Leafe, and at one certaine time of the day, as an hower before Sunne riſe, and an hower after, whereas the other is

Taking Birds with Lime-twiggs.

all the yeare long, and at all seasons and houres, so long as the weather is cleare and the Sunne shineth.

Use of Stales with the Limebush.

There is yet another way of taking these small Birds with the great Limebush (before mentioned) and that is, if either you want a call, or have not the true use of call: then you shall imploy the Stale, (of which there are divers) as thus for instance: when your Bushe is placed, as was before shewed, you shall then take a night Batte or two, being alive, and place them upon the object which is next of all to your Lime-bushe, and in such apparent manner, that no Birde thereabouts but may behold them, which will no sooner be perceived, but every Byrde will come to gaze and wonder at them, then having no other convenient lighting place but the Limebush, they will flocke as thicke into the same as may be, and so you may take them at your pleasure.

Now as these night Battes, so the Owle is of like nature, and may be employed after the same manner; and by reason that she is lesse stirring and more melancholly then the Batte, as also of greater

quantity

quantity, and ſooner to bee perceived, ſhe is a better Stale then the Bat.

Now if you have not a live Owle or a live Batte, if you can get but the skins of either, and ſtoppe them with wool or flockes, they will ſerve as well as if they were alive, and continue (with carefull keeping) twenty yeares and better; I have ſeene ſome that for want of either of theſe hath had an Owle ſo lively cut out in wood, and ſo artificially painted, that it hath ſerved him for this purpoſe, as well as any live one could doe, and he hath taken Byrdes in wonderderfull great abundance therewith.

Chap. XII.

Of the taking of Haukes of all kindes and all Ages.

HAving written of the generall taking of Land-Foule of all ſorts both great and ſmall, and alſo deſcended to the taking of ſome particular Birds as hath been before ſhewed; wee will now write of the manner of taking of Hawkes of all kindes; eſpecially ſuch as are moſt frequent in our Kingdome, and with which my experience hath oft been familiar, as the Goſhawke, and her Tarcell, the Sparrowhawke and her Musket, the Marlyne, Hobby, Caſtrell, Ringtaile, and the like, all which have their Ayries and breed in thir Kingdome, as alſo the Faulcon-Gentill, Haggard, Paſſenger, and divers others, which though naturally they breed not amongſt us, yet by many

What Hawkes breede in England.

ny accidents they come into the Kingdome wilde, and sometimes breaking out of the Mew turne wilde, so that without some especiall Art they are not to be recovered, because having any long time preyed for themselves, the Luer, voyce, and all rules of obedience are then utterly forgotten.

To beginne then with such Hawkes as breed in our Kingdome, you shall understand that they are to be taken three severall waies, and at three severall seasons: that is to say, either from the Ayery after they be disclosed (and then they be called Eiasse,) or after they bee full summed and beginne to forsake their Nest, (and then they bee called Braunchers;) or lastly, after they have preyd for themselves (and then be called Sore-Hawkes, or Hawkes in their Soreage.) *The taking of young Hawkes.*

For the taking of the Eiasse Hawke or Hawkes, from the Ayerie, which is as soone as they be disclosed, and have cast off the first Downe which covereth their feathers, there is but small difficulty to be used, more then in the finding out of the Ayerie or Nest, which is soone done by walking up and downe in the Woodes *The taking of Eiasse Hawkes*

How to find the Ayery.

amongſt the talleſt and goodlieſt Trees which grow in the thickeſt coverts and are furtheſt from pathes, waies or places where people acuſtome to frequent, for in ſuch they build and no other, and if you chance to come where the Ayrie is, you ſhall know it by the mutings & flyc-ings of the old hawks; which wil not only bedaube the Tree and trenches under the Ayrie, but alſo the ground and other places; as alſo, commonly upon the ground (at the foote of the tree) you ſhall finde much plumage, fea hers and bones of birdes ſcattered, any of which characters when you find, you may then be well aſſured that there the ayrie is, ſo that if you pleaſe but to watch neere or about the ſame, either early in the morning, or at the cloſing of the evening you ſhall ſee the male Hawke bring in prey for the female Hawke which ſitteth upon the neſt, which when you ſee, you may (then if you pleaſe) when the female riſeth to bath or ſolace her ſelf (which commonly is about highnoone) clim up into the tree, & look into the neſt, and view how many egs ſhe ſitteth upon; but in any wiſe be carefull not to touch any of them, or give any affright

fright to the old Hawke, but onely looke upon them and ſo depart, (for any groſſe affright will ſoon make her to forſake the ayrie.) This done you muſt let them reſt till the young Hawks be diſcloſed, which after they are a weeke or tenne daies old, you may take them from the neſt at your pleaſure, and beare them home, and ſo bring them up, with warme meat and live birdes till they be full plumed and hard feathered, and after reclaime and man them as you ſhall finde occaſion. Theſe Hawkes be called Eiaſe, or Foole hawkes becauſe they will doate and be founde of the man as of their naturall dames, following him up and down, and crying after him for food as oft as they ſee him or be hungry, yet this is not the beſt manner, nor the beſt ſeaſon for the taking of young Hawkes, for neither can the man feede them ſo naturally and choicely as the true dame can, nor halfe ſo well preſerve their feathers from hurts and bruiſes, which by reaſon of their tendernes & bloudines they are much ſubject unto, and a hurt taken on the feathers whilſt they are in the bloud may diſable the hawke in flying moſt part of the year following.

The taking of Branchers.

The ſecond ſeaſon for the taking of young Hawkes is, when they are Branchers, that is to ſay, when they are full plummed, hard quill-feathers, and beginne to forſake their Neſts and truſt to their owne winges, skipping from bough to bough, (yet not farre from the Neſt) and as it were trying their feathers and by degrees enable them to beare and carry their bodies, ever and anone expecting foode from the olde Hawkes, (for as yet theſe Branchers are not able to prey for themſelves.

The manner of placing the Netts.

This as ſoone as you ſhall perceive, you ſhall then (being fitted of all ſuch implements, as ſhall hereafter be ſpecified) very early in the Morning (as before day) ariſe and go to the Ayerie, and there watch the riſing of the olde Hawkes, when they goe forth to fetch their prey; and ſoone after they are departed, you ſhall ſee the young Hawkes alſo riſe from the Neſt and flye foorth upon the boughes and branches of the Tree, skipping and fluttering up and downe from one arme of the Tree to another; and herein you ſhall obſerve the waies and paſſages which they take when they firſt leape from the

Neſt

Neſt, and through which boughes and branches they goe (for their goings out and their commings in are ever certaine) and marking which is the fitteſt for your purpoſe, you ſhall preſenly clymbe up into the tree, and having divers little nets of two foote, or two foote and a halfe ſquare, made of ſtrong twiſted Houſewifes threed, and dyed as neere as you can to the colour of the leaves of the tree, that it may give no affright or diſlike to the Hawkes; you ſhall place one about the Neſt (halfe circular) and leaving one onely paſſage in and out, from and to the Neſt, and this Net ſhall as it were penthouſe over, or cover the Neſt above head; yet at leaſt a foote and halfe higher then the Neſt, and in ſuch ſecret manner that it may not be perceived, for to lye too cloſe and neare the Neſt, or too open and plaine to bee perceived, will quickly ſcare the Hawkes from the Neſt, and make fruſtrate all your labour.

What kind of Nets.

This Nett ſhall be a running Nett ſo drawne upon a ſtrong line, that when any thing ſhall ſtrike againſt it, it may runne together like a purſe, and ſo incloſe and keepe faſt the thing taken, and

to

to that ende you ſhall make faſt the ſtrong lines to ſome knagge or branch of the tree, that when the hawke or hawkes are taken, they may not fall downe to the grond with the nettes, but hang fettred in the ſame; and that in ſuch ſtraite and little compaſſe, that they may not have liberty to beat or bruiſe themſelves, but hang ſafe without the breaking or hurting of any feather; which above all thing is chiefely to be regarded, for the breaking and bruiſing of any of the main feathers is ſuch a diſabling of the hawke, that either ſhe will not be able to flye at all, or if ſhe doe flye, yet through the want of thoſe hurt feathers ſhee will not be able to make forth her way with that mature and true ſwiftneſſe which otherwiſe ſhe will doe, and where the prey is too hard in flight for the purſuer, there is not onely all labour loſt, but the pleaſure deprived and no contentment to be taken in the paſtime; beſides it makes the hawke grow cowardly and feareful, and forces her to turne Tayle, by reaſon of the knowledge ſhe takes of her owne inability and weakneſſe.

When you have thus plac'd your firſt

Nette

Net about and over the Neſt, you ſhall then take your ſecond Net of the ſame ſize and faſhion, and place it betweene the moſt thickeſt and uſuall branches, through which the Hawks paſſe to and fro, both from and to the neſt, and which before you had principally marked when the Hawkes went firſt from the Neſt, and this Net you ſhall place, ſomewhat more upright then the firſt, yet as cloſe and ſecretly, and having great regard that the Hawkes may by no meanes paſſe either under or above it without danger of taking, and it ſhall alſo as the firſt run together like a purſe, when it is ſtriken into, and be faſtned after the ſame manner to the branches, that it may by no means fall to the Ground, but contain and hold the Hawk till you come to unlooſe her. *The placeing of the other nets.*

Now if you do perceive that every Hawke when ſhe cometh from the Neſt, taketh a ſeverall way, and that there be ſeverall paſſages about the Neſt, in which they take great delight, you ſhall then in every one of thoſe ſame paſſages and likely-hoods, place one of theſe Nets ſo cuningly as may be, that they may nei- *Obſervation in taking of Hawkes.*

neither goe from the Neſt, nor come to the Neſt without the danger of taking of them.

What to be dent when the Netts are placed.

When you have thus plac'd your Nets and made every nooſe faſt and ſure from ſlipping, you ſhall then with all ſpeede come downe from the tree, (for it is entended that this worke muſt bee done with all ſpeed, and before the old hawkes returne home with their prey to the neſt, for if they ſhall come home and finde you buſie about the ſame, they will not onely finde fault thereat, but alſo intice the young Hawkes away from the place, and make you both looſe your preſent labour, and alſo make you beſtow a great deale more in finding out of their new haunts and paſſages;) Being deſcended from the tree, you ſhall place your ſelfe cloſe in ſome covert, where neither the old Hawkes nor young Hawkes may diſcerne you; and yet ſo, as the old Hawkes may in no wiſe returne, nor the young Hawkes remove any whither but where you may diſcerne them, and ſee both their meetings and encounter, and what prey they bring home to their young ones.

Now

Now as ſoone as the olde Hawke is come in with her prey, (which for the moſt part are ever fine Byrdes) you ſhall preſently ſee the young Hawkes flocke about her, and then will ſhee drive them all before her to the neſt (being ever her ſelfe the laſt) and then as many of them as chance but to touch your Netts, they are preſently entangled, and what ſcapes in going to the Neſt, you ſhall be ſure to take in the coming from the ſame againe & what you faile of in the firſt morning, you may be ſure to accompliſh in the ſecond or the third.

Now if it happen (at the firſt comming in of the olde Hawke as the young ones paſſe to the Neſt) that one or two bee ſtriken and taken in your Netts, you ſhall not preſently aſcend the tree, and fetch them downe, but let them hang ſtill in the Nett till the old Hawke have fed the reſt, and is againe departed, and that thoſe young Hawkes which eſcaped, likewiſe are come againe from the Neſt; and if (by reaſon that the Netts are filled) they then goe free, you preſently go up to the tree and fetch downe thoſe which are taken, looſening the Netts, and folding

folding them about the Hawkes so close, that they may by no means flutter and stirre any feather about them; but lye still without moving.

How to tak Hawks from the Nets.

When you are descended and come to the ground again, you shall then in the gentlest sort you can, take the hawkes out of the Nets, without striving or ruffling of their feathers, and presently make them up, and if you have any Ruffer hoods, you shall put them on their heads, for it will keep them the quieter, and make them lesse subject to struggle or hurt themselves.

The manner of Mayling Hawkes,

For the manner and form of Mayling of your Hawkes, it is thus to be done; you shall take a handkercher, or any square piece of Linnen cloth, Canvas, or the like, and then knit the two ends of any one side together in such strait and close manner, that the Hawke may onely thrust her head thorow it and no more; and that the pynions of the wings may rest upon the noose, and stay the body from going thorow; then you shall draw the rest of the handkercher all over the Hawkes body, and folding it close together about her train, wrap it in such sort

fast

fast about the body of the Hawke that she may in no wise stirre or move any feather about her; and if herein you observe to draw out the Hawke's legges, so as she may not pull them up, or gather them close to her body, it will be more easie for the Hawke, and you shall carry her with a great deale lesse danger.

The trussing of Hawkes.

There is another manner of Mayling of Hawkes, and that is to take a soft flat string of leather, (or any other gentle stuffe, which will neither pinch much, nor yet yield much) & this string you shal put down betweene the pinion of the wing & the hawkes body as low as you can; and then bringing in about the outward part of the wing draw the two ends together, & knit them of a reasonable straitnes, so as the hawke may by no meanes move or stir any part of her wing, which done you shall do like to the other wing, so carry home your hawks, & then gently unmaile or untrusse them as you shal find occasion; for the lesse time your hawke lies mailde or trussed up, the more wholsome it is for your hawks body, and the longer she lies mailde or pull'd up the more apter shee is to receive disease or lameneſſe.

And

And herein is also to bee understood that this latter kind of Mayling of hawks (a trussing up of the wings) is nothing near so good as the first Mayling with the handkercher, nor carrieth a Hawke so easily, nor yet so free from danger, because it not onely pincheth the wings and maketh the pinions sore and tender, but also, a little bruseth the feathers, which being but newly quilled, are not come to their full strength and hardnes, and if any of them chance to be in blood (as all Hawks (though of one Ayrie) yet some not at one instant) then it is great odds but this trussing, them either breaketh or bruseth them in their blood, whereby those feathers are made unserviceable, for all that year following.

The seeling of Hawkes.

There be some that when they take these young Hawkes, do neither Mayle them nor truss them, but only Seel them after this manner.

They take a needle with a square point (which we commonly call a Glovers Needle being fine, small and much worn, and put in it a Crymson silke, then put the Needle between the Hawkes eye, and the nether lid of the eye, and

so

so draw the silke thorow it, and then bring it crosse over the Hawkes head, and there taking the Needle from the Silke, bring the two ends of the same over the top of the Hawkes head, and so drawing both the nether lidds close over the eyes, knit them with a fast knot upon the crown of the Hawkes head, and so carry her either in your handkercher, or upon your hand, at your pleasure.

Taking Hawks in their Sore age.

But this manner of seeling of Hawkes, is both troublesome, painfull, and dangerous to the Hawke, and except the man have a steady hand, and a cunning eye that doth it, hee may not onely endammage the putting out of the Hawks eye with the point of the Needle; but also by any little over-straining of the silk, tear out the skinne of the lidde, and thereby both cause a foule blemish, and sometimes blindnesse, as is continually seen in daily experience.

Discommodities in seeling of Hawkes,

To help then this discommodity of Seeling; If you have neither skill to Mayle your Hawke, nor to trusse your Hawke (rather then you shall Seel her) you shall take a plaine Ruster hood

Help for the discommodities.

which some call the first hood) being made of soft and gentle leather, large and easie for the head, and put it upon her, and so carry the hawke home.

Taking Hawks in their Sore age.

The next manner of taking of hawkes (according to their seasons) is to take them in their sorage, which is indeede from that time they have preyed for themselves, and are masters of their owne strengthes and courages, being able to make a true choise of their prey, and to conquer it; until the first whole yeare be fully expired, and that they have mewed and exchanged either all, or at least, most part of their first feathers, after which time of the second coat, they are no more called Sore-hawkes, (or hawkes in their soreage) but entermewers, (or hawkes of the second Coat) and they are most easily to be distinguished from the first, for the feathers of the second coat are a little more palish blew, and not so blacke as are those of the first, and every time that she changeth, her coate is paler and paler, till she come to bee called a white Hawke, which you shall so much the easilier distinguish, if you observe the differences of her feathers, for no hawk mew-

eth

eth so entirely, but she leaves ever some feathers of the former yeare unmewed, & those are so easily to be distinguished one from another, that any diligent observation you shall be ever able to know of what yeare or age your hawke is. Now to proceed to the maner of taking these hawkes in their forage, or after they preyed for themselves, you shal (being perfect in the knowledge of the ayrie, for that is ever first to be intended) most diligently marke their morning and evening going forth to find out their prey, and how and where they prey, as also the manner of their returning home, & where they take their stand (that is, on what braches of the tree they doe most usually sit) for hawks are the constantest of all birds to the places where unto they hurt to & wont themselves, neither will as others doe sit one while in one place & another while on another. Therfore when you are acquainted with their hours of going out, & the places wher they sit at their returns, you shall then take advantage of her going out, & when she is bent about her prey, you shall climb the tree whether stand is, & in a strait place through which necessarily

Placing of the Urines.

the mush passe, you shall take a pair of those Nets, which Faulkoners commonly doe call Urines, or Urnes, being not much different in shape from the net, formerly described for the branches, onely they are much larger and more hollow in compasse, and indeed are to be bought almost of any Barbery, or Netmakers which dwell in the Wood Countries; and they must be of strong twisted brown thrid, and dyed either Blew or Green, as aforesaid, with a reasonable large mash, for that sooner entangleth and holdeth the faster.

Placing of the Urines.

These Urines you shall place in every severall passage, and in sundry Trees; round the stand which the Hawke useth, so as she may come and stay upon the stand without danger of the Nets, into which if at any time she strike, she is presently taken, and then to be disposed as was formerly described.

Now because you may not in any wise suffer the Hawke to hange too long in the Net, for fear of bruising and burning her selfe, you shall as soone as your Urines are placed, take up some secret and safe place, where you may

lye and watch the comming of the hawke and as soon as you see her strike or be intangled, presently (with as convenient speed as you can, and not doing any hurt to your other sport) you shal attend up to the tree, and take down the Hawke and Mayl, trusse or hood her as you shall finde occasion.

Now if by the uncertainty of the Hawes comming home, or the openness and liberty of the passages which those young Hawkes have, you find that this manner of work availeth not, you shall then rise two howers at the least before day, and come as near to the Hawkes stand (or resting place) as you can possibly get (without giving of any affright or amazement to the young Hawkes) and ascending up into such trees as you see doth most face those places where the Hawes sit, and are so plaine in their viewes, that they cannot rise without beholding them, and in such trees amongst the most convenient branches you shall pitch and place your Urines, and under the guard of them, you shall set Stales of such Birdes, either great or lesser, as you see the Hawke daily preyeth upon, and *Taking with stales.*

and these Stales you tye at such a convenient liberty, that they may flutter with their wings, and flye a little up and down about the Net, yet by no meanes without the guard of the Nets; not so as the Hawke may not in any wise come unto them, or offer to strike at them without the certain danger of the Nets.

And having thus plac'd your nets round about the stand in every convenient place, you shall then descend and lodge your selfe in some secret place where you may lie and watch what issue doth follow of your businesse; Then you shall see that as soon as the day openeth, and the Hawk beginneth to rouse her selfe upon her stand, and to gaze and looke about her (as it is the nature and manner of every Hawk) and hath also cast up her casting of plumage, or feathers which shee had received into her body the day and night before, and is then sharpe, eager, and hungry, as of necessity and likelyhood she must needs be. Then will shee no sooner espie your Stales, but with all speed possibly she will flye unto them, and striking at them with great eagernesse (as her hunger

will

will compell her) shee will presently be intangled in the Nets, so as you may take her at your pleasure; and thus in one morning with a little diligence and temperance, in one morning you may take the whole Ayrie; But if out of too much rashnesse and hastinesse, or for the covetousnesse to be Master of one Hawke you rise up to soone, and shew your selfe, whereby the rest of the Hawkes doe take affright or dismay; presently those Hawkes untaken will mount and flyeaway, and so all the rest of your hope is utterly lost for that day, and you must begin again and be more advised the next morning.

There be some that for the taking of these Sore hawkes do use Lime-roddes, or a little small Lime-bush artificially made of fine twiggs fixt so gently into a little socket of woode made like a handle; that as soon as any thing toucheth or striketh them, they presently depart from the socket and clappe close to the thing that toucheth them, whereby they are intangled, these little bushes are artificially placed about the stand wher the hawk useth to sit, cōpassing

Taking with Lime diversly.

it

it so about, that the Hawk cannot come to the same, whether with wings opened or wings close, but she must of necessity touch the points of the rodds, (for more then the points must not come near the stand, or appear, above it for fear of giving affright) and then as soon as the points are touched, (leaving the socket) they clap under the Hawkes wings and so entangle her.

As for the Limerodds which are to be used single by themselves, they must be fixed to the neerest branches to the stand, comming snapwise so near unto the stand, that the Hawke cannot come in, or settle her selfe upon the same, but must of force touch some one point or other of them, which no sooner shall be touched, but presently it must forsake the place where it was fixt, and clap unto the Hawke; which as soon as she perceiveth, and beginneth to be angry, and to beat or struggle with her wings, then instantly the rest clap about her, and altogether intangle her.

And here is to bee noted that these Limerodds must not be onely placed in and about the Stand, or that particular place

place where the Hawke moſt uſually ſitteth, but alſo in and about all paſſages and places of likehood through which the Hawke goeth, or flyeth when ſhee comes to the ſtand; yet in ſuch ſecret & cloſe maner and ſo ſheltered with leaves, and other branches, that the Hawke may by no meanes diſcerne or diſtinguiſh them from the naturall ſprayes or twiggs of the tree. And here is further to be noted, that theſe ſingle Lime-twigs or Lime-rodds may be of a good ſize or length, as a foot or a foot and a halfe, and limed either halfe or three parts, as occaſion ſhall ſerve, yet the ſmaller and finer that theſe rodds are, the better they are, and doe much ſooner catch and more ſafely entangle. But for thoſe that are to be uſed Buſh-wiſe in the wooden ſockets or handles, containing ſome a dozen, and ſome ſixteene rods in a cluſter, yet ſo as one may not touch another; theſe muſt be as ſmall as ſmall may be, as not above ſixe inches at the moſt, and limed above foure inches and no more; two inches being left cleane and unlimed: that is to ſay, halfe an inch which muſt ſtand in the ſocket; and alſo an inch and a

halfe

halfe above the Socket, which is preserved for the Man to handle and touch, when either he putteth the Rodds into the Socket, or taketh them out of the Socket.

The making of the little Lime bush.

Now for the manner of making of this little Lime-bush with the Socket, it is two waies to be framed, that is to say, if the Socket be round and thick, and of a large compasse, whereby it is to be fixt into the stand, and nothing but the rods to appear above, then must all the holes (in which the Lime-rods must stand) be made above, sloape-wise, all of one just height and just depth, and the rods of one true and equall length without difference.

But if the Socket must be small and slender, whereby it cannot containe above a hole or two on the toppe of the Socket, and that it is to be fixt amongst the branches as a naturall branch, on a maine spray of the Tree, then must the holes be made sloapewise down all the length of the Socket, and in such wise as you see twigs grow, that is to say, not one just oppolite to another, but one in the mid part or middle space between two

two, as by cutting of any naturall bushie branch whatsoever, you may easily perceive.

And in this case you shall not have your Rodds all of one entire length, but the uppermost must bee the shortest, (as about the scantling before mentioned of six Inches) and then the next longer by so much more, as there is difference betweene the holes, and so as the toppes may meete, and lie of an equall height, the next longer then that, so as it may also meete in an even height with the first; and so consequently every one longer then other, yet so as none at the toppe may be longer or shorter then the first, but all meet of one equall height, and make the Bushe of one entire and even proportion.

Now although this manner of taking with Lyme is very safe and certaine, and may bee done with more ease and lesse trouble then any of the former, yet is it nothing so good nor so neate: First, in respect it fouleth the feathers and gleweth them together, whereby the hawke is deprived of the perfect use of them, for the Bird-lime (whose cleansing

Discommodities of taking with lime.

and

and ſticking nature almoſt no man is ſo Ignorant as not to underſtand) when it is gotten upon the feathers, doth ſo ſtick & felter upon the ſame, that it is almoſt in no wiſe to betaken away; but doth ſo diſable the Hawke, that I have ſeene many in mine owne experience, that albeit they did try many experiments, yet could they never make their Hawkes (once limed) cleane againe, till thoſe feathers were mewed & new came in their place; Secondly it fouleth and diſableth not the ordinary and uſeleſſe feathers (as the plumage on the breaſt, or the ſmall feathers on the backe, but the maine and principall feathers belonging to the winges, and without which a Hawke cannot at all moove, or beare her ſelfe in the Ayre.

And laſtly, it is of ſuch a melting and looſe Nature, that albeit touch or hurt but a feather or two at the firſt; yet with ſtrugling and ſtriving, or much rubbing and handling of the Lime, or ſeeking to waſh away the Lime with things not fit for that purpoſe, it preſently ſpreadeth farther and farther, ſo that where there was but a few feathers infected, preſently

you

you shall have the whole Hawkes body, and hardly any feathers free from the annoyance of the Lime.

Now in asmuch as the manner of taking of Hawkes is most common, (because most easie) both among Fowlers and Faulconers; and that indeed olde Hawkes are very hard or seldome gotten without the helpe of Lime, as well in respect of their Naturall wings, and skill to apprehend and finde out what they imagin may hurt them, as also in respect of their vigilance and care to flye and eschew all manner of affrightes, and shewes which shall interpose and happen betweene them and the places which they have chosen for their haunts: And because that every man is not a taker of Hawkes, but may and doth many times buy his Hawke from the Fowler or other Land-takers, and that indeede the Fowler or Land-takers, may and doe happen very many times light of excellent principall choyce Hawkes, both Haggards and other, that therefore this offence of Lime may neither hinder you, of a good Iewell when it is tendered you, nor abate from the Fowler any part of

Remedies against Lime.

the

the iuſt reward and merit which is due to his labour, as alſo that ignorance in this caſe may not hinder you of a full yeares ſport, (as many times it doth when this miſchance hapneth) but that you may cleanſe and make cleane your Hawke; preſently as ſoone as you ſee this pollution and foulneſſe, you ſhall firſt obſerve to take off your Lime-rods with your wette hands, (having for that purpoſe ever water in readineſſe) ſo gently and eaſily as may be, not rowling (as ſome doe) the Lime-rods up and downe and ſo ſpreading them farther, but (lifting them upright and putting a white paper betweene the Lime-rods and the feathers) divide them gently without any further annoyance, and betweene every feather and another that is touched with the Lime, (as neare as you can) put a little piece of white paper, for this will both keepe the other feathers from further infection, and alſo ſucke in the Lime and make it much apter and eaſier to be taken away, nor will it let the lime ſpred any whit further then it was at the firſt applying; then having thus guarded all the reſt of the feathers, you may very well

Mayle

mayle up your Hawke (if she be a wilde one) or otherwise put on a Rutter-hood and so bring her home (but mayling is the better) when you have brought her home, you shall unmayle her, and first take away one paper (beginning with the principallest feathers) and then having very fine clarified Capons Grease (or at least Goose-grease) annoint the lymed feather very well and thicke therewith; then take of the finest flower glasse sand and scatter it as thicke as you can upon the oyntment; which done goe to another infected feather and doe as much, and so consequently to as many feathers as you can well handle at one time, and then having warme water ready, bathe the infected feathers (thus drest as aforesaid) in the same, and then gently rubbing and chafing the Lymed feathers betweene your fingers, working off the Lyme, which you shall finde will come away in thicke little rough roules (if fast as you can wish or desire it. But if it so happen that you cannot come to be the these feathers in the warme water, then (having annointed them as aforesaid, and pounc'd on the sand) you shal take a

peice of ſpunge, and dipping it in the warme water, bath the feathers therwith, and then working them betweene your fingers you may eaſily bring away the Lyme as aforeſaid, and make your hawke as cleare as ſhee was before her taking, obſerving a round action when the Lime ſtucketh & commeth not away ſo roundly and quickly as you would have it, then preſently to powre on more of the ſand, and ſo to continue till the Hawke be throughly cleanſed.

Taking Hawks with the Lanthorn.

Now there is another manner of taking of theſe young Hawkes, and indeede no more generally for them then for other elder hawkes of what nature or quality ſoever they be, ſo they take their ſtands either on Trees, Rookes, Towers, or any place elſe which is acceſſable, and where a man may climbe without danger or imminent perill, and eſpecially this maner of taking is excellent for the regaining of all ſuch Hawkes as ſhall happen to breake out of the Mewe, where having bin long kept and without familiaritie with the man (more then the receiving of their food) they are become almoſt utterly wild and Haggard againe.

And

And also for all such hawkes as shall happen or escape, or break away before they be reclaimed or made to know the man and obey his voyce, or for any other wilde hawke, as hath been before spoken. Any of which chances or mischances when they shall happen unto you, you must first diligently pursue and follow the Hawke both by inquisition and Art: By inquisition, as by enquiring amongst Field-Keepers, Shepheards, Heardsmen, and the like, if they have seene or heard of a Hawke, and by Art in taking advantage of the wind and weather, for if there blow any stiffe or loud gale of wind, then commonly, a Hawke will flye down the winde, but if the Ayre be milde, gentle, and pleasant, then now and then she will put up into the winde. Also you must have a very diligent eye to note in your pursuit if you see any Checke arise, whether they be Crowes, Pyots, Ravens, or any other birds, for it is tenne to one, that there you shall be sure to finde your Hawke.

The Art how to follow a hawke fled.

Now that you may know what a Checke is, you shall understand that whatsoever you see any flockes or multitudes

What a Check of any Fowl.

of Crowes, Pidgions, Ravens or the like, to raise up and gather together in one place & flye about and about in the same place, making a noyse, or shewing much trouble and vexation, one while seeing, another while mounting, somtimes stooping, and sometimes raigning & wheeling, and every motion shewing either anger, feare, or amazement, according to the nature of the Fowle which are troubled, then you shall know that such an object is called a check, and that these Fowle (whatsoever they bee) thus troubled are either pursued by some other Fowle of prey that is their enemie, or else have found some affright or amazement which causeth them thus to flye up and downe, and wonder: so that presently when you perceive any such checke, you must make into it and behould the reason therof; and againe, as you have an eye and care to respect this matter of checke, and the other observations before specified, so also if your hauk be a long wingd hauke, and altogether traynd up at the River, and that the time of the yeare and season is fit for that purpose, then you must have a diligent regard to looke downe to the

vallies and lower grounds, especially in the mornings & evenings, & at such times as are fit for prey, and there you must beate along the River side, and about all banks or standing waters, as are plashes, pittes, quarries, or any other place where either Ducke, Mallard, Shell-fowle, or Greene-fowle have any haunt, and it is great odds but in some one of these places, and at these times and seasons, you shall finde your Hawke, but if it bee not a long-wingd Hawke, but a short-wingd Hauke, as, Goshawke, Tercell or the like, then you shall make your search about Woodes, Groves, plumps of Trees, and such like places where Birdes greate or little doe resort, as also about mens Houses, Barnes, backe-yardes, pullen-houses, and such places where pullen doe resort and use to feede, for Goshawkes and such like, especially those which are called Poulterers, doe ever most frequent those places, and will ever for the most parte take there stands either in high Trees, or on the topps of unfrequented Houses, or one the toppe of some other high stakes, or Hovells neare adjoyning to such places.

Now when by this artificial search and inquiry you have found your Hawke, you shal then with all care and diligence watch and pursue her from place to place till you bring her to the evening or night stand, which will be about the closing or setting of the Sunne, (for it is to be presupposed, that this Hawke is utterly ramadge and wilde, and not to bee taken by any Call or Luer:) when you have therefore brought her to the stand, and see her safely and constantly setled, which you shall know by the rousing of her selfe and shaking of her feathers, as also by her seaking, pruning, and such like delights, which shee will take in her selfe after she is constantly setled; for before you shall see no such motion come from her, then you may be bold to depart and leave her, for without some extraordinary affright, nothing will move her till the next morning; then having provided all things fit for your purpose, both for clyming unto her, as also for the matter and manner of her taking, you shall then in the dead of the night, and when it is at the uttermost darkenesse, (for no night can bee too darke for this

purpose

purpoſe) come to the ſtand, and having with you a dark lanthorn (which is that which ſheweth the light at one ſide, and by the turning of your hand may be extinguiſhed and wholly darke at your pleaſure) you ſhall turne the light of the Lanthorne juſt before your face, and as directly againſt the Hawke as you can deviſe, to carry it, and ſo with as little noiſe as you can poſſible make, yee ſhall climbe up to the Hawk, obſerving ever to carry the Lanthorne ſo juſt before your face, that your Hawke may in no wiſe perceive your face, for the leaſt blinke thereof may affright her, but being well guarded by the light of the candle, and the darkneſſe of the night, you are ſafe enough, and may by this meanes come even to the very branch, or certain place whereon ſhee ſitteth, unto which as ſoon as you are arrived, and that the Hawke is within the compaſſe of your reach, you ſhall then very artificially ſteale up your other hand in which the Lanthorne is not, and with it take her faſt by the leggs, thruſting your great finger betweene her leggs, and your forefinger on the outſide of one legge,

and your middle finger and little finger on the out-side of the other legge, and so hold her, that shee can neither stirre nor move; then having a hooke or some other crooked engine at your side whereby to fasten your Lanthorne, presently clap the Hawke to the contrary side with one hand, and stay the beating of her wings with the other, and then having your handkerchiefe or some other linnen cloth in a readinesse, presently mayle the Hawk, and so bring her down from the stand and carry her home.

This is a certain and most infallible way for the taking of any of those wild Hawks before mentioned, yet if in this work you observe to cover your face with a close hood, either of greene or blew colour, leaving onely two loop-holes for your eyes and the rest of your face concealed, your work will be more easie, and you shall come to your prey with a great deal lesse suspition, for nothing is so affrightfull in this case, as the face of the man onely.

And albeit the glimmering or light of the candle mixt with the darknes of the night

night is a guard ſufficient, becauſe the flame of the candle is the onely object which taketh up the Hawkes eye, yet nevertheleſſe in as much as your hand may now and then chance ſometime to fayle in the carriage of the Lanthorne, and partly by looking for your right way, and to avoide danger, and partly to make ſure your prey, ſo that you may neither come too raſhly upon her, nor yet go too farre away or wide on either hand, you may now and then let your Lanthorne ſlippe from before your face to the hazard and loſſe of all your labour, therefore it is moſt expedient, that you have this hood before ſpoken of to cover and conceale your face, and then you ſhall not need to fear, but your worke will proſper and goe on according to your wiſh, and in the fulneſſe of perfection.

Of the old wild Haggard.

Now there is another wilde Hawke (which is of a great deale more price and value then any of theſe which wee have formerly written of) which will hardly or never be taken with any of theſe waies, means, devices or engines before

before recited, because she is a Hawke of more age, circumspection and cunning, and that is the *Haggard*, *Faulcon*, *gentil*, and now and then (though seldome) the *Gerfaulcon* or the *Gerkin*.

The coming of the wild Haggard.

These Hawks come into this Land (or any other of like climate or temperature) in the beginning of Winter, and (according to the opinions of the best Faulconers and Fowlers) to come in by the pursuing of Wild-foul (at that season of the year) from other more colder Nations, where the waters and rivers are closed up and covered with ice, so as they can neither find relicfe nor pleasure, nor any thing to sustain them; and here commonly they do continue from October till March (if the season of the year do fall out any thing wet) but after that time they depart again and will not stay by any meanes; whence it comes that your skillfullest Faulconers will not (after March is spent, and sometimes before it be gone) in any wise let their Haggards flie either at the River or at any other prey (as the Hearne or the like) for by a very naturall instinct, and moving of their own bloods at that time

time of the year, they are forced upon every toy or conceit to flie away, nor wil turne tayle again, till they come into those colder Regions from which before they departed; where finding the rivers beginning to open, and all sorts of fowl to come in and resort, there she presently meeteth with her *Tercel*, where coupling and ingendring, they bring forth their ayries together upon the rock, cliffes, and other high places bordering near the Sea side.

The haunts of Haggards.

Now when the Haggard (whether it be Tercel or Faulcon) is comed into this Kingdome, you shall understand that their haunts are ever for the most part both upon great and small rivers which ruune through low and large levelled vallies or plaines, where there is ever some dry ground whereon to land her prey when she hath taken it, and where all kind of the middle sort of fowle doe resort, as Duck, Mallard, Tayle, Widgeon, Shel-fowl and Green-fowl; and up and down these rivers she will beate and flie at an extraordinary high pitch, so that if any fowle happen either upon affright or otherwise to rise up, or if any

Foule

foule happen to come in unto that river, then be ſure one of them is ever her owne, for her art and skill is ſo great, that it is hard for any foule to eſcape her.

As they doe haunt thus upon the rivers and moving ſtreames, ſo alſo they will haunt upon the Plaſhes and blanke waters; in the open ſeaſons, and when they are not cloſed and bound up with ice, and alſo upon pits & quarries where ſtone hath beene digged, and upon ſmall rundles or little narrow and ſhallow ſtreames, when any Fowle uſe but to frequent and lye upon the ſame.

To know the good Hawke from the bad.

Now here is a principall thing to be obſerved, that in ſearching the haunts of theſe Haggards, ſuch Haggards as you ſhall finde to prey upon the great, large, and ſtrong waters, whether they be rivers or blanke waters, that you ſhall account ever thoſe Hawkes to bee the beſt, as in that greatneſſe and ſtrength of conqueſt to be ever moſt valiant, moſt cunning & nimble and the higheſt fliers, and ſuch Hawkes as ſhall prey upon little pits, ſmall plaſhes, or narrow rundels and

and small rivulets, that those are the weaker Hawkes, lesse skilfull, and lesse valiant.

Now when you have either heard of, or shall by your owne especiall observation, see the comming in of any of these Hawkes, and from the knowledg of their own worth and value shall be desirous to make your selfe owner and possessor of so gentlemanly and rich a treasure, you shal first then early in the morning by the spring of day rise up to watch her haunt, and as near as you can see her manner of preying (not so much for any thing that is available therein to the taking of the Hawke, as to have a true knowledge of her worth and excellencie) when you have seen her take her prey and feede, you shall then see her rouse her selfe, and goe to her place of rejoycing, where after she hath feakt and trimmed her selfe, and pruned some of her feathers, you shal then watch her unto her day-stand, which is never very farre from the place where she preyeth, and is most commonly either upon some dead remote ralle or pale, or some old stake or pole set up for cattell to rubbe them-

How to take these Haggards.

themſelves againſt in the Summer ſeaſon, or elſe upon the withered trunke or armes of ſome old, dead and decayed tree. To which ſtand when you have watch'd her, and ſee her ſafely and conſtantly ſetled; you may then depart away about any of your other buſineſſe, for ſhe will not begin to ſtirre (from that place) till it be towards evening, which commonly is betweene three and foure of the clocke in the after noone: Now about three quarters of an hour, or halfe an houre (at the leaſt) before that time you ſhall come forth againe, and watch her as before unto her evening prey, and ſo from thence to her night ſtand; which commonly will be either upon ſome medow-ſtake, meareſtone, or elſe ſome of the other things before rehearſed: Now when you have thus found out both her day-ſtand and her night-ſtand, to which theſe Hawkes are wonderfull conſtant, you ſhall then the next morning come to the day-ſtand, and having noted the arme of the branch whereon ſhe moſt uſually ſitteth: you ſhal mount up to the place, and having very fine ſmall long lime-rods well ly-

med

med with the best lime, you shall of them make a cradle, that is, you shall crosswise place your limerods on the branch, or stake one penthousewise hanging over another, that when the Hawk commeth in with her spread wings to light upon the stand, that then as she gathereth in her wings together, she may so draw in the limerods under her wings, and by that means be intangled and taken, and these limerods you shall place so yare and nimble to rise and fall about the Hawke, that upon the least touch of any feather, they may presently in an instant cleave unto her, and one limerod must depend and by a small string be so fastened unto another, that when the Hawke toucheth but one rod, presently in an instant all the rest may suddenly clap about her.

The placing of the Cradle.

Now that I stand not more seriously and in larger tearms to describe this Cradle, the true manner, figure, and proportion, I hold it a matter halfe needlesse, because it is a thing so exceeding frequent amongst all sorts of Faulconers and Fowlers, that hardly one man in ten if he have any skill or delight that way, but

but can ſhew you how to performe it. Beſides, theſe things which conſiſt onely in action and not in relation, are ſo hard to be ſet downe in words (eſpecially that an ignorant underſtander may get profit therby, multiplicitie of words confounding memory, and ſcarcity of words wanting ſatisfaction) that I had rather referre the diligent learner to a Quere amongſt the skilfull Foulers, then by an animation of unperfect words, make him doe any thing contrary to art and good order: let it ſuffice then that Cradle is nothing elſe then a row or circle of lyme-twiggs which are faſtened one to another with an entire thrid, and placed ſo artificially about the ſtand, that the Hawke may by no meanes come to ſeate her ſelfe upon the ſame, without the danger of touching ſome one of them; which one touched, doth preſently draw all the reſt after it, and by that meanes the Hawke is taken.

When you have thus placed your cradle on the day-ſtand, you ſhall then goe to the night-ſtand and there do as much, placing your cradle in the ſame manner as was before ſhewed; and this muſt be done

done during the time that the Hawke is upon her day-Stand, which performed, you ſhall then go again to the day-ſtand to ſee what effect your work hath taken, and if you find that the Cradle is either too large whereby the Hawke commeth into her Stand without touching it, or too low and narrow, that all her feathers are ſo high above it, that any of them can touch it; then you ſhall upon her firſt departure, reform all thoſe errours, and out of the true judgement of your eye, make it ſo fit, that by no meanes poſſibly ſhe may eſcape the ſecond time, and then forthwith having the true ſcantling of the firſt Cradle, make the ſecond (which is that upon the Night-ſtand) ſutable and anſwerable in all points to the former, and ſo either in one or the other, you cannot chuſe but accompliſh your purpoſe, which as ſoon as you have attained, you ſhall forthwith take the Hawke and draw off the Lime-rods in ſuch ſort as hath been before ſhewed, then Mayle her up, bring her home, cleanſe away the Lime, and then man and order according to the art of a skilfull Faulconer: and ſo keepe her either

for uſe or ſale, as you ſhall find occaſion, or the neceſſity of your affaires requireth.

There be other Fowlers, which uſe to take theſe kind of Hawkes) which goe a nearer way to worke (yet nothing more ſure then this, or certain) and that is, they will find out their hauntes, ſometimes by the Check and trouble of foule, which riſing from the water, wil preſently Enew and turne backe againe to the River, as not daring to goe forward in their paſſage, or by the comming in of Fowl, and preſently ſeeing them wheele about and turne backe againe as faſt as wing can bear them, and ſometimes by ſeeing the bald Buzzard, Ringtaile, or other ſuch like cowardly birdes of prey, hanging and watching about the Rivers, for it is the nature of them, as ſoon as they ſee the Haggard, to follow, watch and aloof to purſue him, and then when the Haggard hath taken his prey, and fed thereon at his pleaſure, as ſoon as ſhe forſakes it and is gone away, preſently this cowardly bird ſeizeth on the remainder, and taketh ſuch leavings as the Haggard had left behinde her, ſo that

you

you cannot have a better guide unto the haunt of a Haggard then one of these Buzzards, for they will direct you at a hair to the place of their preying.

Now therefore others which will not take this paines neither, but thinke it much too tedious, and therefore they will onely desire to informe themselves of the Hawkes stands, and they care for no further, whence it doth come that they will labour about to search in the most likely places to finde out the stand, and when they come truly to the place indeed and where the stand is, they may perfectly know it by the Mutings and Slycings of the Hawke, which indeed differeth much from any other Fowle whatsoever, and these Mutings or Slycings wil be in a great plenty both upon the stand, and also round about the Stand.

How to know the Daye-stand from the Night-stand.

Now if it be the day-Stand, then you shall finde about it nothing but Mutings, & Slycing without any mixture of other matter; But if it be the night-Stand, then you shall finde lying amongst the mutings many and divers castings of feathers, plumage and the like, which you

may know to belong to a Hawke, and no other Fowle, by the bigneſſe, proportion and ſubſtance; For if it belong to a Faulcon, it wil be almoſt as bigge as a reaſonable Almond in the ſhell, fully as long, and ſomewhat more round, with both the ends alike of equall ſharpneſſe, and for the ſubſtance it will be all feathers and plumage without any other mixture. Any of theſe characters, when you haue truly found, and have with great circumſpection and care viewed them over and over, and ſee nothing to oppoſe and croſſe your opinion, then you may aſſure your ſelf, it is the ſtand of a Hawke.

Now whether it be her Stand for the preſent time, or were her Stand in ſome late time before, but is now forſaken, you ſhall know that difference by the caſtings, but if it be a forſaken Stand, you ſhall find no caſting, but ſuch as are dry, old, whithered and without any ſubſtance; but if it bee her ſtand for the preſent time, then ſhall you finde caſtings there of all natures, as ſome altogether dry, ſome three parts dry, ſome more dry, and ſome leſſe; Nay, if you make

make diligent and carefull ſearch, you ſhall finde amongſt them the very caſting which ſhee caſt but that morning, which being wholy moiſt, you may with a ſmal preſſing, preſſe moyſture out of it, all which when you haue found true by a compariſon betwixt them and your owne experience, you may then aſſure your ſelfe that you are right, and that this is the right ſtand which you look'd for, ſo that then you ſhall here place your Cradle, in ſuch ſort as hath beene formerly deſcribed unto you, and then going to the Day-ſtand, you ſhall doe as much there, and then giving good attention upon your work, you ſhal quickly finde that the effect will make good your hopes to the uttermoſt of your wiſhes, and the full benefit of all your well taken labours.

Now for as much as this Haggard-Faulcon Gentil, and her Tercel, which is the Male-Hawke, are of ſo much prize and worthy eſtimation here amongſt us, and that our Land affords them in the ſeaſons beforeſaid in a reaſonable plentie. I thought good in this figure following to repreſent unto your view,

the true ſhape and beauty of both theſe Hawkes, the Haggard-Faulcon and the Goſhawke.

The forme and faſhion of the Haggard-Faulcon.

The

The ſhape and faſhion of the Goſhawke.

And thus much touching the neceſſary experience and knowledge for the artificiall taking of Hawkes of all kindes, and all ages, which are familiar with us here in England, and do either breed, or come by chance into our Nation.

CHAP. XIII.

How to take divers ſortes of Land-Fowles, and Water-Fowle, with baits.

HAving ſpoken thus of the generall taking of Land-Fowl of divers and ſundry natures, as alſo of the taking of ſundry other kinds of ſmall Birdes, great Birdes, Birdes of prey, and the like, for all ſuch I have ſhewed the Engines, Tooles, Inſtruments, and devices which are to be applyed in thoſe buſineſſes; I will now deſcend to another generall way of taking divers kindes of Land-fowl, and divers kindes of Water-fowl alſo, without any kinde of engine or inſtrument at all, but onely with Baits, and inticement of food; on which, as ſoon as at any time they ſhal feed, or taſt, preſently they ſhall be ſtricken ſenceleſſe; and ſicke, ſo at your pleaſure you may take

take them, and make your ſelfe maſter of what prey ſoever you ſhall be diſpoſed to ſpend your time upon, and although I cannot give any ſingular commendations of theſe experiments, ſo farre forth as they are applied to the taking of any Fowle or Birds which are to be uſed for food, becauſe they are poyſonous, and aſtoniſhing, and ſo may make the fleſh which is ſo polluted and infected, both dangerous and unwholeſome; yet whenſoever at any time they are uſed for the deſtroying, killing and conſuming of ravenous and wicked Birdes, ſuch as are Ravens, Kites, Buzzards, Carryon-Crowes, and the like; any of which are not onely hurtfull to flocks and Fouls, by killing and deſtroying new yeand Lambes, ſicke weake ſheepe and the like, but alſo are very offencive to Conny-warrens, Parks, and other places of Chaſe, by killing in great abundance many young Rabits, pecking out of the eyes of young Faunes, Kids, and the like, then is there no knowledge more beneficiall and excellent, or ought with greater violence to be purſued and followed in this buſie and artificiall paſtime of Fowling, then this

manner

manner of taking and destroying Birdes with these baytes and engines of foode, which are so much the more certaine & assured and effected with greater ease & lesse labour, by as much as the foode is feareful and affrightful then the engins, and that Birdes will follow it with lesse suspition and amazement, then either Nets, Limerods, Springs, Strings, or any other Engine, that carieth a greater shew and presenteth affright in a more large and horrid manner.

How to destroy Kites, Ravens. Buzzards, &c.

To speake then first of the destroying of any of these wicked, ravenous and offensive birdes; you shall first doe well to observe their hauntes, and the places where they hover most for the gayning and compassing of their prey; and about all things you shal observe the times and howers in which they are most sharp and eager for the getting of their prey, as namely, very earely in the morning as soone as they doe unpearch themselves & range about to get foode, as also in the evening a little before Sun-set, at which time like wise they rise from their day-Stand and doe with as much painfulnesse hunt about & range to get food as in the morning

morning; and especially, if it be at that time of the yeare, when they have young ones, then shall you not cast out any bait so fast as they will with greedinesse seize it, nay, and with that extraordinare eagernesse, that they will not many times sticke to strike at it, when you hold it fast within your finger.

Having thus sorted your time & place conveniently, you shall take a prety quantitie of Nux-Vomica, and first dissolve it either in wine vinegar, or wine lees, of which the lees of sweet wines are ever the best; or for want of them you may either take the lees of claret wine or white, then take the garbage or entrailes of any fowle or bird whatsoever; as whether it be Chicken, pullet, Ducke, Mallard, or any other foul that you have occasion to kill either for dinner or supper, or for want of such garbage you may take the intrals (which is the small gutts and other such like refuse stuffe) either of piggs, Rabits, or any thing that you kill which is of like nature, and these intrals or garbage you shal al to be besmear and anoynt with the confection of Nux-Vomica, prepared as is before shewed,

and

and then caſt forth the garbage into ſuch places where theſe ravenous Birds doe haunt, and then lodge your ſelfe in ſome convenient place, where you may watch the bayte thus prepared, and you ſhall ſee that it ſhall no ſooner be ſeized upon, and but a bitte or gobbett or two devowred or ſwallowed down, that the ſame preſently whatſoever hath ſo eaten it wil preſently grow dizzie and as it were dumb, reeling & tumbling up & downe, until it fal into a dead ſownd, ſo that you may come and with your hand gather them up.

Other waies to uſe the former bait.

There be other Fowlers, which to worke the deſtruction of theſe kinde of ravenous Fowle, doe take little prettie bigge pieces of rawe leane fleſh as either Beafe, Mutton, Veale, or any other kinde of Fleſh, and doe make little ſecret holes in the fleſh, then take little pieces of Nux Vomica, and put them into the fleſh and ſo cloſe the holes cloſe to gether againe, and then caſt out the baite into ſuch places where theſe ravenous Fowle reſort, and ſo watching it aſſoone as the bayte is ſeized and preyed upon, preſently it wil worke the ſame effect as was before

before ſpoken of, and you ſhall take your prey both certainely and quickly, nor needs you (if you pleaſe) to take them ſingle, or one by one, but if you pleaſe to caſt out many of theſe baites, you ſhall take many of them at one ſtooping, for you ſhall ſee them ſo eager and buſie ſtriving who firſt ſhall ſeize the firſt bayte, that if you caſt out twenty, hardly will any one of them be found fruſtrate, but each will take the full effect, that either your labour or wiſh requireth.

Of faſtning baits to the ground.

Now whereas ſome doe uſe to ſtake downe theſe bayts, and faſten them ſo to the Ground that they may not bee taken away, but that the Fowle ſhall bee forced to prey upon them in the places where they lye, that is nothing neare ſo good as to let them lye looſe, and ſo as they may truſſe them and carry them away at their pleaſure; for it is the nature of theſe ravenous Creatures to ſnatch and catch at their preyes, and ever to truſſe it and carry it away with them, which when at any time they finde to be faſtned, and that it will not riſe and goe with them, preſently they beginne to doubt, and ſuſpect that ſome miſchiefe

lyes

lyes hidden therein, and you ſhall ſe
them preſently forſake it, and then moun
ting upon their traines, flye whuing in
to the Ayre, nor will they ever after offe
to ſtrike at it or come near it, for it is t
be underſtood that theſe ravenous Kites
as they are fearful and cowardly out o
their own natures, ſo are they likewiſ
infinitly jealous and ſuſpicious, and ap
to catch at any apprehenſion which ſhal
be offered, either of fear or danger, an
what places ſoever they ſuſpect, fro
them they preſently flye, nor can any in
tiſement whatſoever again draw them
within the compaſs of their former fear
and therefore to avoid this ſuſpition
let ever your baits lie looſe upon th
ground, and ſo as they may eaſily b
truſs'd up and born away, by the violenc
of any ſtooping.

Of carrion to be uſed for baits.

Now as you uſe either the intralls o
garbage before ſpoken of, or elſe the
ſmaller pieces of fleſh, (of which we hav
already ſufficiently intreated) ſo you ma
uſe any kind of Carrion whatſoever
whether it be Horſe-fleſh, or Dogs-fleſh
or any other kinde of fleſh, made carrio
by any miſchance whatſoever, and eithe
beſmea

beſmeare & daube it with this confection of Nux-Uomica diſſolved as before ſaide, or elſe ſtop the gumme as beforeſaide into the fleſhie partes of the carrion, and queſtionles you ſhall then take of theſe ravenous creatures in infinite abundance.

Taking of other foul with baits.

Now if you have a deſire to take any other Land-fowle with theſe baites, as Houſe-doves, Stocke- doves, Rookes, Chaughes, or any other, then you ſhall take Wheate, Barley, Fetches, Tares or other pulſe, and boyle them very well with good ſtore of Nux Vomica in ordinary running water, and when they are almoſt boyled dry, and as it were ready to burſt, then you ſhall take it from off the fire, and ſet it by, and cover it till it bee thorovvly colde, and that the Graine hath ſuckt up and drunke in all the moyſture; which done, take this Graine thus boyled, and in the ſeverall hauntes where any of theſe kinde of Fowle frequent, which you would have taken, ſcatter and ſtrew it as thicke as you can poſſibly deviſe, and bee you then well aſſured of it, that as many of them as ſhall chance or happen but to take

take or eate of the ſame, preſently they ſhall fall downe in a dead ſwound, and you ſhall come and gather them up at your pleaſure, for their dizzineſſe and drunkenneſſe comes ſodenly and ſwiftly upon them, that they ſhall have no time or leaſure to flecke away or to hide themſelves, but that you may take and gather them up, and ſo carry them whither ſoever you ſhalbe diſpoſed.

Taking of ſmall birds with baits.

As thus you take theſe greater kind of Land Fowle, ſo you may alſo take all manner of other ſmaller Land Fowle, of what nature or qualitie ſoever they be, whether of the leſſer, middle kinde, as are the Thruſhes, Black-birds, Fel-fares, jayes, Starlings, & ſuch like, or elſe of the ſmalleſt kind of Byrds, as Sparrowes, Robins, Linnets, Bullfinches, Cordials & a world of ſuch like, if you doe but obſerve to boyle in your water with your Nux-Vomica, the ſeedes of Graynes in which any of theſe ſmall birds do delight, as Hempſeed, Linſeed, Rapeſeed, and above al other your Muſtard ſeed, for though it be not ſo pleaſant as any of the other ſeedes, nor yet ſo apt to intice Byrds to feed upon it, yet when it is thus uſed and boyld, it then doth

doth take more ſurer and certaine then any of the other ſeedes whatſoever, both by reaſon of the naturall ſharpeneſſe and fume which it carryeth, and ſends up to the braine to amaze and intoxicate it, as alſo the ſtrength of the other mixture, which joyning with the former naturall violence, doth ſo vtterly take away all ſence and motion; that not any thing is left to the poore Bird but a moſt deadly ſlumber.

There be other Fowlers which inſtead of the Nux-Vomica doe onely take the lees of wine, (and the ſharper & quicker ſuch lees are, the better they are and the better effect doth proceede from their uſe,) and in theſe lees of wine, they doe boyl any or all of their graynes, as wheat barley, fetches, or any other pulſe, as alſo any or al of the ſeedes formerly reherſed and doe ſtrew and ſcatter them in the haunts where the foule or Byrdes doe uſually uſe to haunt, which you would take, and it is altogether as good and as fully effectuall as the Nux-Vomica is, and is a great deale more neat and more wholeſome, and far better then any other; for not being poyſonous or infe- *Other Baits.*

 ïve,

it corrupteth not the blood, or leaves behinde in the flesh any thing but what a man may with safetie taste, having in it onely a power to amaze and to astonish without any further danger or mischiefe, which on the contrary part to a scrupulous conceite, is both offensive and loathsome, as we finde in dayly experience.

Now in the making of this confection you neede not to stand too strickly or severely on the boyling of it, for if you have not every thing answerable to your purpose, if you onely steepe and infuse your graines or seeds in the lees of wine, it will be fully as effectuall, and without any boyling at all will doe every way as much as can be desired herein, onely it must then have a longer time to stand and infuse, so that the Graynes or seedes may drinke in the lees, and be as it were ready to burst before you make any certaine use of them.

Baite made with Hemlock and Henbane.

There be other Fowlers which in case that they can neither get Nux-Vomica, nor yet these lees of wine, will instead of them take the iuice of Hemlocke and in it steepe these Graines or seedes, and then mixe with them in that iuice a pret-

sit sprinkling of Hemp-bane seede or Poppie seede, or both if you can compasse to get them, and having let it stand in steepe two or three daies at the least, after drain it out and then scatter in amongst the haunts of these Fowle or Birdes, and as many as shall tast or feede upon the same, so many will presently be taken with a frenzie or dizzinesse, that they shall have no power to flye or move, but that you may take them up at your pleasure, and do with them what your fancie best liketh, whether it be to kill them, keepe them, or to revive them again for some other intent and purpose.

Taking of wild fowl with baits.

Now having thus attained to the full perfection of all manner of baites for the taking of all sorts of Land-Fowle of what nature or quality soever they be, if then you have a desire likewise to know the secrets, and how with the like baites to take all manner of Water-Fowle, especially such as at any time doe forsake the water, and range up and downe to finde some part of their food upon the lande; as for the most part doe your wild Geese, Barnackles, the Gray-Plover,

Mallards, Bitterns, Buſtards, Curlews, ſhevellers, and a world of others like unto them, then ſhall you for the taking of any of theſe kind of water-Fowle, take the ſeedes of the Herbe called *Bellenge*, the leaves, roots and all, and having clens'd & pickt them from all filth; as cleane as is poſſible, you ſhall put them into a veſſell full of cleare running water, and there let them lye in ſteep fully a day and a night, and ſomewhat better, then taking the ſame water in which they were thus long ſteep'd, boyle them together in the ſame, till the water be in a manner all conſumed, and the ſeedes and herbes left in a ſort dry, then take it off, and let it ſtand and coole: then having occaſion to uſe it, take as much thereof as you ſhall thinke convenient, and then go to the haunts where any of theſe water-Fowl uſe, whether it be upon early Winter corn lands, or Meddowes, bankes of Rivers in moiſt and watery Ilands, in Fennes, as amongſt Reeds, Ruſhes, Sedge, and other courſe Stover, or in any other haunt whatſoever, and there ſpread of this bait in divers and ſundry places, and as many

Fowle as shall either taste or feede thereon, so many presently will be stricken with a drunken dizinesse, so that they will turne up their heeles and lye in a dead traunce for a great while together, without any moving at all.

Now there be other Fowlers, which to this bayte or confection, doe adde good store of Brimstone and boyle it well with the same, and it is very good also, for Sulphure is of such a sharpe and piercing nature, that if it catch but the braine of any of these cold weake creatures, it presently suffocates it, and makes the Fowle lose all manner of sence and motion.

How to recover fowle that are entranced.

Now if after you have taken any of these Fowle, and having them in your owne safe keeping, you desire to restore them to their first health, whether it be against this Bayte last of all rehersed, or against any of the other formerly recited thorow out this whole worke, you shall then take a little quantitie of Sallet-Oyle, (according to the strength ability and bignesse of the Fowle) so having your Oyle and every thinge fit for the purpose, droppe it

down the throate of the Fowle, then chafe the head well with a little strong Wine-Vineger, and the Fowle will presently recover again, and be as healthfull, and as able as ever she was.

And thus much for the taking of all manner of Fowle, whether belonging to the Water or Land, with Bates or such like astonishing devices.

CHAP. XIII.

Of the taking of Pheasants with Nets, Lyme-bush, or any other Engine.

Having thus passed over the generall taking of Land Fowle, & Land-byrds, with some particular use of divers particular engines, and have not onely shewed the generall use of all Nets, Lyme, Engines, and all manner of Baits, We will descend to the more particular taking of some

some more particular Land-fowle, and which indeed are of more particular renowne and estimation, and of greater price and valew then any that have been heretofore spoken of: and of which in the first rank I will place the Pheasant, as being indeed a Byrd of singular beauty, excellent in the pleasure of her flight, and as rare as any Byrd whatsoever that flies, when she is in the dish, and well cookt by a skilfull and an ingenious workman.

Divers waies to take Pheasants.

To speak then of the manner of taking the Pheasants, you shall understand that it is to be done three severall waies; that is to say, with Nets, with the Limebush, or else with other particular Engines, of which there are divers kinds, and do carry divers shapes, according to the seasons of the year when they are used, and the manner of the place in which they must be used, as shall be at large declared hereafter.

The nature of the Pheasant.

For the taking of the Pheasant with Nettes, it is to be done either generally, or particularly: Generally, as when you take the whole eye of Pheasants, that is to say, the old, the young, and altoge-

ther, the old Cock, the old Henne, and all their poots as they fleck and runne together in the thick and obſcure woods, or particularly when you take none but the old Pheaſants, or ſuch young Pheaſants as are come to the age of coupling and payring, ſo as you can have no hope with your Nettes to ſtrike at more then one Pheaſant or two at the moſt at one inſtant or fixed time, for theſe kind of birds are of a melancholy, ſadde, and ſullen diſpoſition, and after once they be coupled and paired together, doe no more keep in flocks, or companies together, but live ſeparated and aſunder from other paires.

The generall taking Pheaſants with Nets.

When therefore you ſhall intend to put in practiſe this generall way of taking of Pheaſants with netts, which (as before I ſaid) is to take the whole Eye of Pheaſants both young and old, and altogether without any reſervation, you ſhall then firſt of all learn to know the haunts of Pheaſants, and their uſuall and common places of breeding; otherwiſe doe what you can, your work will be fruſtrate, and your labour ſpent in vain.

The

The haunts then wherein Pheaſants naturally doe abide and breed are not in open and plain Fields, (for their fears are ſo great, and their cowardlyneſſe ſo much, that they dare not live without covert or ſhelter) nor yet under the covert of Corn-fields, low ſhrubes or buſhes, neither yet in tall high Woods, where every Tree may fitly be imployed for Timber. *Haunts of Pheaſants.*

But in thick young Coppſes well grown, and ready for ordinary ſail of ſmall buſh wood, Poales, and the like, having been divers years reſerved from the haunts of Cattell of all kindes, and from the tracing and paths of mens feet: by reaſon of which ſolitaryneſſe and ſafeneſſe, the Pheaſants take great delight herein, and will here above all other places breed and bring forth her young ones, provided that it be ever thick grown and obſcure, for if it be otherwiſe thin, plain, and paſſable, ſhe will neither breed, nor come near it, for ſhe accounts the ſtrength of her covert to be her only ſafety.

Now when you have thus found out the haunts and breeding places of the Pheaſants, *How to finde the Eve of Pheaſants.*

Pheasant, then your next care is to finde out the Eye or brood of Pheasants, which you may doe sundry waies: as first, by your eye, in searching up and down those haunts, and viewing the bushes and trees, and other obscure places, where for the most part they reside, and where you shall see them flock and runne together in companies and heaps, as it were so many Chickins after the Henne; or else by rising early in the Morning, or comming late in the Evening, and observing how and when the old Cock and Henne calleth to the young ones, and then how the young ones answer back unto them again, and so from that sound to direct your path as near as you can to the place where they meet and gather together, lying there down so close and secretly, that by no means you may be discerned, but that you may take a true observation how they meet, and how they lodge together, that from thence you may take a true knowledge, both how, where, which way, and after what manner to pitch your Netts, and with what advantage both of wind and weather, for the gaining of your purpose

But.

But if it so fall out, that either by your own want of knowledge in this kind of practise, or through any other naturall imbecility either in your eye or care; that neither of these waies sort with your liking, but seem either too tedious, or too difficult;

Then the most certainest, readiest, and easiest way for the finding out of this pleasure, is to have an absolute, perfect, and naturall Pheasant call, of which you must both by practise, and the instruction of the most skilfull in that Art, not onely learn all the severall notes and tunes which the Pheasant useth, but also the severall and distinct application of them; and the time when, and to what purpose she useth them, as whether it be to cluck them together when she would broode them, to call them to food and meat when she hath found it, to chide them when they straggle too farre, and to keep them out of danger, or to call them together and to make them rejoyce and wanton about her, and to labour and seek for their own livings: for any of all which she hath a severall Note or tune.

Of the call for the Pheasant.

All

All which, when you have learnt perfectly upon your call (of which call I shall speak a great deal more largely, in a particular Chapter hereafter) then you shall with your Call come into their haunts (before spoken of) at such howers as are most convenient and fitting for the purpose; to namely, very early in the Morning, at which time they straggle and goe abroad to seek out their food, which commonly is for the most part before the Sun riseing; or else at furthest just with the Suns rising, or else in the evening, somewhat before the Sun begin to set, at which time they do the like also in straggling abroad to seek their food.

Times to use the call

Now here is to be understood, that albeit these two particular times of the day, as the earliest of the Morning, and the latest of the evening are the best times of the day for the use of the call, and the finding out of the Pheasants whether it be by couples, or otherwise the whole Eye or company; yet nevertheless, they are not the only and alone times, but you may as well use the call any time in the forenoon after the

Sunne

Sunne rise, or any time in the afternoone before Sunne set, by altering and exchanging onely your note or tune, for as before Sunne rise, and at Sunne set, your note is to call them to their foode, or to give them libertie to range; so your notes after Sunne rise, and before Sunne set, which are called the forenoone and afternoone notes, must be to clucke them together, and to bring them to brood, as also to chide them for their straggling, and to put them in feare of some danger ensuing.

As for the notes of rejoycing or playing, they may bee used at any time, yet not so much for the discovery of these young Pheasants, as for the finding out of the old couples, when they are separated and gone any distance one from another, whether it be for foode, through affright, or any other naturall or casuall occasions whatsoever, as every hower happeth to these fearefull and cowardly creatures.

Having thus the perfect use of your Call, and the observation of the right howers and seasons, being come to the haunts (that is to say into the aforesaid thicke

The manner of using the Call.

thicke Copses and Underwoods) and having ranged through the same into the places most likely and best promising for your purpose, which you shall know by the straigth of the undergrowth, the obscurenesse, darkenesse, and solitarinesse of the place, you shall then lodge your selfe so close as is possible, and then drawing forth your Call, beginne to Call first softly, and in a very low tune or note (lest the Pheasant be lodged too near you, and then a sudden loude note may affright them) but if nothing reply, or call back again to you, then raise your note higher and higher, till you make your call speake to the uttermost compasse; provided that by no meanes you overstrain it in the least degree, or make it speake out of tune, for that were to lose all your labour, and to give the Fowl knowledge of your deceit, whereas keeping it in a most true pitch, and a naturall tune, if there be a Pheasant in all the wood that comes within the compasse of the sound thereof, shee will presently make answer, and call backe again unto you, & that in your own note also, and as loud and shrill in every proportion.

portion. Now as soon as you heare this, answer or report backe againe, if you finde it come farre, and is but one single voyce and no more, then shall you as close and secretly as you can by degrees, steale and creepe nearer and nearer unto it, still ever and anon applying your Call, and you shall finde that the Phesant which answereth you, will also come nearer and nearer unto you, which as soon as you perceive, you shall then observe that the nearer and nearer you meete, the lower and lower you make your Call to speake, for so you shall perceive the Phesant her selfe to doe, and her in all points as near as you can you must imitate, and thus doing, in the end you shall get sight of the Phesant, either on the ground, or on the pearch, that is, upon the boughs of some small Tree, as it were prying & seeking where shee may finde you, which as soon as you perceive, you shall then cease from calling a space, & then as secretly and as speedily as you can, see you spread your Nette in the most convenientest place you can finde betwixt your selfe and the Phesant, over the toppes of the lowest shrubbes and

bushes

bushes making one end of your Net fast to the ground, and holding the other end by a long line in your hand, by which when any thing straineth it, you may draw the Net close together, or at least into a hollow compasse, which done, you shall call again, and then as soon as you perceive the Pheasant to come just under your Net, then you shall rise up and shew your selfe, that by giving the Pheasant an affright hee may offer to mount, and so be presently taken and intangled within your Net.

Taking of many Pheasants together.

Now if it so fall out, that upon your first calling you hear any answers and those out of many corners of the Wood; then shal not you stir at all, but constantly keep your place still, by all meanes inticing them to come unto you, and you not moving to them, and as you shall hear them by their sounds come nearer and nearer unto you, so shall you in the meane space prepare your Netts ready, and spread them in such convenient places as you shall thinke fit round about you, one paire of Nettes on one side, and another paire of another, and then lye close and apply your Call

till

till all the pheasants be commed underneath your Nettes, and then boldly discover your selfe and give the affright to make them mount, which done take them out of the Nettes, and dispose of them at your pleasure; and in this manner (before discovered) you may take either the single couples of old pheasants, if it be after the time of the yeare of their payring, or else the whole Eye of pheasants, according to the time of breed, and the true and proper use of the season.

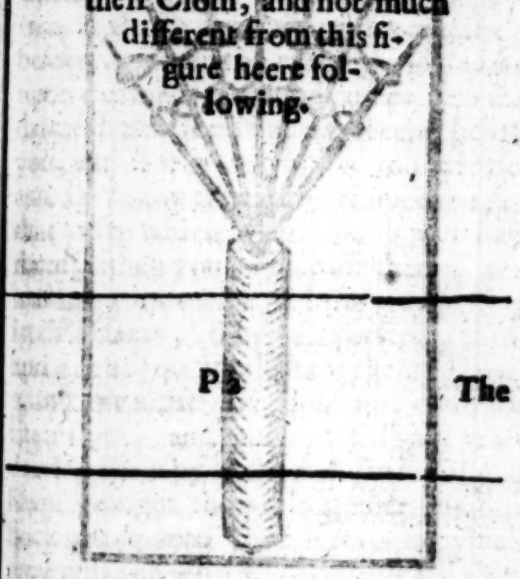
Of the driving of Pheasants.

Now there is another manner of taking of these pheasants with Nettes (but it must bee onely when they are very younge) when they are called pootes, or pheasants poots and not altogether pheasants, and this manner of taking is called driving of pheasants, and it is to be done after this manner.

First, you shall either by the Art of your eye, still in their haunts, diligence in search, or else by the cunning of your Call, finde out the Eye of pheasants, bee they great or little, and assoone as you have found out any one of them, you shall then (alwaies taking the wind with

you for they will naturally runne downe the winde:) place your Nettes crosse the little paddes and waies which you see they have made, and padled in the woodes, (for they will make little tracks almost like sheeps trackes) and as neere as you can come to some speciall haunte of theirs, which you shall know by the barennesse of the ground, mutings and loose feathers which you shall finde there, and these Nets you shall hollow, loose, and circular wise, the nether part thereof being fastened close to the ground, and the upper side lying hollow, loose, and bending, so that when any thing rusheth into it, it might fall and intangle them; which done you shall (taking the advantage of the winde) goe where you had before found the haunte, and there with your Call (if you finde the Eye bee scattered abroad and separated one from another) you shall call them together, and assoone as you find they are all come in, and doe beginne to cloocke and peepe one to another; then you shall cease from any more calling, and taking an instrument which some Fowlers doe call a Driver, being made of good strong white

white wandes or Ozyers, ſuch as basket-makers doe uſe, being ſet faſt in a handle, and in two or three places twiſted about and bound with other wandes, carrying the form and faſhion of thoſe wand-dreſſers which Clothworkers doe moſt commonly uſe in the dreſsing of their Cloth, and not much different from this figure heere following.



The forme and fashion of the driver;

With this driver (as soon as you see the Pheasants gathered together) you shall take and make a gentle noise upon the

the boughes and Bushes which shall be round about you, which as soon as the poutes doe heare, they will presently runne in a heap together from it as fast as they can a little way, and then stand and listen, keeping all as close together as can be (for then they dare not scatter) and then you shall give another racke or two, at which they will runne againe as before, and thus by racking and dashing upon the small trees and bushes, you shal drive them like so many sheepe before you, which way or whither you please, and if at any time they chance to goe that way which you would not have them, then you shall crosse them, and making a noise with racking, as it were in their faces, they will presently turne and goe as you would have them, for against the noise they dare not come for their lives, and thus you shall not cease driving them by little and little till you have brought them altogether in one flock wholy into your Nets, in which they will run with all eagernesse till they be so intangled, that not any one can escape, but will all rest at your mercy to dispose according to your own pleasure.

Observations in dryving.

Now in this driving of the Pheasant, there are two things principally to bee observed, either of which when you shall happen to fail in, may be the utter losse of your whole labour; the first is secresie in your concealment, for if you shall lay your selfe so open that the birds may perceive you, or behold your face, it will be such a strange affright unto them, that their amazement will make them scatter and runne one from another, and hide themselves in holes, and bottome of bushes, where they will lye and not stirre upon any occasion as long as any day endureth, and therefore you must be very circumspect in any wise not to discover your self, but to follow them so secretly and closely, that they may either not perceive you at all, or if they do perceive you, yet not so that they may imagine you do pursue them; which that you may the better doe, it shall not be amisse for you if you weare over all your face a hood of some greene light stuffe as suitable as you can to the leaves of the trees, having onely loope-holes for your eyes and nostrills; And also about your head if you wear a wreath of

Oaken

Oaken leaves, or other leaves, it will be very good, and will take up the eyes of the birdes from greater ſuſpitions, as alſo if you trym and hang your garments with branches and leaves of trees, it will be very available and bring your worke to effect ſooner and better.

The other obſervations is time and leaſure in the worke, for this buſineſſe hath no greater foe in the world then raſhe-neſſe and haſtineſſe, for any thing that is done to theſe feareſull creatures ſuddenly or raſhely, breedeth offence and amaze-ment, and ever amazement is to them an allarum of death, nor wil their feares ſuffer them to argue or diſpute with the obiect, but the very firſt apprehenſion is ſufficient to make them all flye at an inſtant, nor will their feares let them ſtay till every one have beheld the thing which ſhould ſuddenly affright and feare them: But if any one of them take a feare, it is a ſufficient warning piece to ſet all the reſt packing, and therefore you cannot take too great leaſure or care in this buſineſſe, and when at any time you ſhall finde any ſtaggering, or (as it were) aſtoniſhment amongſt them,

then presently cease, and lie as still as if that you were dead, till the fear be passed over and forgotten of them, and that you see they gaze no more about them, but gathering themselves together, do begin to peep and cluck one to another, and to joy and rejoyce amongst themselves; which when you do perceive, then you may beginne again, and fall to your work as you did before, till you have brought it to that full period of your desires which your aimes looked for.

Taking Pheasants with the Lime-bush.

The next way to these already recited for the taking of Pheasants, is with the Lyme-bush, or the Lyme-roddes, in which business is to be observed all those things which were formerly recited for the Nettes, both as touching the nature of the Byrds, their haunts, fashion of breeding, and the manner of finding of them; onely in the use of the thing it selfe, you are to observe this manner of proceeding.

First, whether you deal with Bush, or single roddes, you shall make sure to trimme them with the best and strongest Lyme that can be got, and provide that your

your roddes be of a very good ſyze, as twelve or tenne Inches at the leaſt, and that they be lymed full out to the midſt, but no further, except it be upon ſome ſpeciall occaſion, where the buſhes are ſo deep, that you cannot fixe them handſomely, at ſo ſhallow and ſmall a proportion; and then in this caſe you may lyme your roddes fully to three parts at the leaſt.

The faſhion of the lime-buſh.

Now for the faſhion of the Lyme-buſh to be uſed for this purpoſe, it muſt not contain above fixe or eight twigges at the moſt, being the toppe branch of ſome young Willow-tree, and the ſingle or nether end thereof, being almoſt a ſhaffment long from the twigges, which ſhall be made ſharp: ſo as you may either ſtick them gently in the ground (yet ſo as they may alwaies remove with the leaſt touch whatſoever) or elſe prick them into ſhrubs and little buſhes, through which the Pheaſants uſually run & trace when they are upon the ground; alſo if you ſee any little ſmal trees, whereon the Pheaſant uſeth commonly to pearch, if on them, and neer to the branch which ſhe makes her

pearch

pearch, you place two or three of theſe buſhes, and prick them ſo, that ſhe can neither ſpread her wings to light on, nor yet take her wings to fly off without touching ſome of them, you ſhall be ſure the Pheaſant can hardly or never eſcape your taking.

The manner to take with the Buſh.

When you have thus placed theſe little buſhes, you ſhall then draw forth your Call, and then beginne to call (as hath been formerly declared) but by no meanes remove from your place, or diſcover your ſelfe, but lie as cloſe as is poſſible, and ceaſe not till you have entic'd all the Pheaſants about you; which you will quickly doe if your call be good, and your art skilfull in the tuning: & you ſhall ſee aſſoon as they come within the danger of your buſhes, preſently upon the touch of any of them, they will in an inſtant faſten, and when one is lymed, that one will goe very near to lyme all her fellowes, for what by her owne ſtriving and ſtrugling amongſt them, their comming to gaze; and ſeeking to eſcape or avoid like danger, ſome will be ſmeared by her that was taken; ſome will light on other buſhes, ſo

that

that if there be twenty, hardly will any one escape, or if it hap some one or two doe escape by mounting, and so get to the pearch, as is the naturall quality of them, and there-sit prying and peeping to see what becomes of their fellowes; then it is tenne to one that they are taken with the Lyme-bushes which you had placed formerly on the pearch, and therefore you must be sure to have a circumspect, busie, and diligent eye in all places.

Again if the old Pheasants, when you call, will not come in upon the ground (as it is their nature so to doe, especially in the Winter season, which is the chiefest time for the use of the Lyme-bush) but do mount and come flying from pearch to pearch, till they come to that pearch which is next you, ever prying and peeping where they may finde out those which calleth: then you shall see that assoon as they light upon any of these pearches, where your Lyme-bushes are placed, presently assoon as they touch, they are taken; and thus not any one, whether old or young, shall escape you. *Taking old Pheasants.*

Now

Observations when they are taken.

Now for asmuch as you cannot have an eie in every place, but that whilst you are busie in gathering up one, another may fleck away and runne into the thickes and hide her selfe; or whilst you are gathering up those upon the ground, you may lose the sight of what is done or taken upon the pearch, you shal therefore keepe a true record how many bushes you prick'd downe, after what manner, and in what places, and then having taken all such Pheasants as you can possibly finde, you shall then gather up all your Roddes againe, and make sure that you have your full number, but if you misse any one of them, then you may be assured that there are some limed which you have not found out, and therefore that you may recover all such losses; you shall be sure never to be without an excellent staunch Spaniell, which will lie close at your foot without stirring, and this Spaniell must be an excellent Retriver, one that will fetch and carry, and that by any meanes will not break nor bruse either flesh or feather, but having found his prey, will forthwith bring it unto you, and lay it

by

by you, this Dogge as ſoon as you ſhall finde that any Pheaſants are eſcaped, you ſhall thruſt into the thickes and make him hunt and bring you forth all ſuch Pheaſants as ſhall lye hidden, till by the true number of your Lime-Buſhes you finde there is no more ſtricken in that place, then you ſhall go and ſearch all your Pearches, and if you finde any Buſhes there miſſing, you ſhall then put in your Spaniell and make him hunt and bring forth whatſoever was there taken alſo, till your true and juſt number of Lime-buſhes be made up without the loſſe of any, for albeit ſome may object, that by reaſon of the greatneſſe of theſe Buſhes (containing many branches in one ſtalke) that therefore by the wallowing and ſtrugling of the birde (and eſpecially this being a bird of ſome power and ſtrength) they may be ſcattered and loſt among other Buſhes and Brambles, yet let them know that theſe Lime-buſhes as ſoone as they doe once touch, the more they are ſtrugled with, the more faſt they doe intangle and wrappe & catch about every feather that moveth, and holds the foul ſo faſt from ſtirring, that

that he is not able to go or creep through any chink, but where hee is first overthrowne, there he commonly lyeth without moving, his own fear daunting him as much or more then any other vexation or trouble, whereas indeed the single limerodde lying light and without any cumber (more then the taking away of the use of the wings) they shall strik and runne away with them sometimes more then a quarter of a mile, by which meanes I have seen divers Pheasants loft, and found dead in a bush a moneth after, for they are so cowardly, that being once stricken, they never joy or will ever seek food after: now for the proportion and manner of this Lime-bush, it is contained in this figure.

The

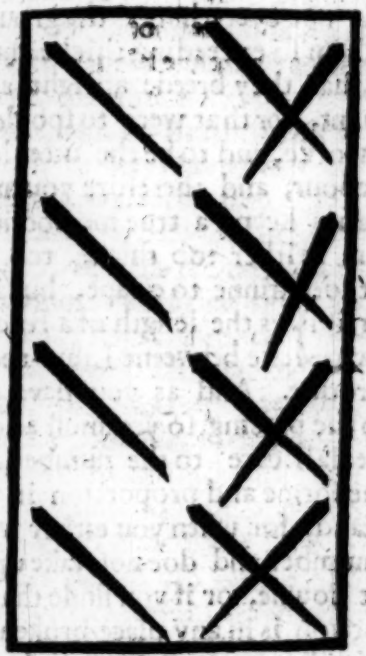
The forme and fashion of the Lime-bush for Pheasants.

In the self-same manner as you place this Lime-bush, so you may if you please, place single lime-roddes also, and not alone and upon bushes, shrubs, by tracts and such like places, but also upon the ground

ground and in every open place where any thing muſt paſſe from one buſh to another, or from one thick to another, and theſe Lime-roddes muſt be prick'd ſloapwiſe and croſſe, ſhoaring alongſt the ground, and that not one way onely, but every way that the Birdes can poſſibly come, obſerving in every place two rowes or files of Lime-roddes, the one turned ſloapwiſe one way, the other ſloapwiſe the quite contrary way, ſo that the points being ſevered a great diſtance one from another, and ſo as a bird may eaſily walk between them without touching either, you ſhall then place a third row between them all aſloape, clean contrary to either of the other, according to the forme of this Figure following.

The

The true manner and forme how to place Lime-rods.



Which being duly observed no Fowle can come any way, but they must of ne-

 ceſſity

ceſſity be within the danger of touching; and thus you may place according to the quantity of your ground, as many Lime-roddes as you ſhall thinke good and as the place will containe, provided that you doe not over-charge the ground, or place them ſo exceeding thicke and apparant, that they breede affright and amazement, for that were to ſpoyle your whole worke, and to be the utter loſſe of your labour, and therefore you muſt by all meanes keepe a true mediocrity and ſet them neither too thicke, too ſcare nor yet too thinne to eſcape, but in due proportion, as the length of a Rodde or ſome what leſſe betweene Lime-rod and Lime-rodde. And as you have a care thus to the placing, ſo you muſt alſo have an eſpeciall care to the number, and to the true forme and proportion in which they ſtand, for when you either want of your number and doe not take up what you ſet downe, or if you finde that your proportion is in any place broken, then you may be very well aſſured, that ſome are touched and fled, which you have not found, and then you muſt hunt with your Spaniell (as hath beene before declared)

clared) and so bring them forth; for every time you looke upon your Lime-Roddes, it is not necessary that you take them up or count them, (for that were toyle to no purpose) but onely looke upon your proportion, and if that hold perfect, then you may be well assured not any thing hath commed amongst them, but if that fayle or be disordered, then there hath beene something amongst them, and something is taken.

The seasons for the use of Nets or of Lime.

Now to make any comparison betweene the use of the Nettes, and the use of these Lime-roddes, or to give any preheminence or place more to the one then to the other were needlesse and to no purpose, since they are both of equall vertue and goodnesse, and have indeed each of them their distinct times and seasons for their severall imployments; for you shall here understand that those Lime-roddes or the use of Lime is onely for the winter season, as from the beginning of *Novemb.* at which time every tree hath shed his leafe, & every byrd is content to pearch upon the twigs which are the very figures and Emblems of lime-twigs, until the beginning of *May*,

at which time on the contrary part every Tree is budded and doth begin to ſpread and open his leafe, ſo as all birdes may couch and hide themſelves under the covert and ſhaddowes of the ſame, and the true uſe of the Nets are from the beginning of *May* when Trees are leaved, till the latter end of *October* when every tree doth ſhed and looſe his leafe ſo there is no time of the year more the the very time of ingendring, but may b exerciſed in this pleaſure, whence wha profit may ariſe I leave to be judged b thoſe which keep good Houſes, and ſuc as have good ſtomacks.

The faſhion of the Nets. Now for the ſubſtance, faſhion proportion of theſe Nets, they woul firſt be made of the beſt twined doub Huſwifes thred that can bee got, and it be dryed either green or blew, it is much the better, the maſh would be re ſonable ſquare and large, as almoſt inch between knot and knot, would be in length about three fadom at the leaſt, and in bredth ſeaven foot better, it muſt be verg'd on each ſid with ſtrong, ſmall fine coard, and a were ſurfled thereon, and the Net place

not ſtraight, but thick and large, ſo that at any time it is extended it may lie compaſſewiſe and hollow, alſo the two ends ſhall be verg'd likewiſe with ſmall cord, yet that more for ſtrength then for any particular uſe or purpoſe, ſome doe uſe to make theſe Nets of a much more larger ſize, as ſeven fadome or five fadome, but ſuch Nets are comberſome, and full of trouble, and hardly to be ruled with one hand, and therefore in caſe there bee need of any ſuch long Nets, then you may take a couple of the firſt ſize (which was three fadome) and joyning them together, or pitching them one cloſe by another, they will ſerve fully as well, and rather better then theſe long ſiz'd Nets, and be both better to pitch, readier to take up, and a great deal more y'are and nimble for any purpoſe, in which you ſhall imploy them. And thus much for the taking of Pheaſants in generall, either with the Nets, or the Limebuſh.

Chap. XV.

Of taking of Partridges with Nets, or any other Engine, of driving them, or setting them, and the making of the setting Dog.

HAving spoken of the manner and forme of taking of Pheasants, wee will now come to the manner of taking of Partridges, being a bird of no lesse use, worth and excellency either for pleasure in her flight, or for food in the dish, then the Pheasant before spoken of, onely the difference holdeth in the quantity, and not in the qualitie, for the Partridges are birds of a much lesse size, of no whit lesse excellencie, nor are they much in their nature different in condition, for these Partridges are naturally cowardly and fearfull, also very simple and foolish, and most easie to be deceived or beguiled with any train, bait

Baite, Engine, or other device whatsoever, whether it be by intisement of Call, or Stale, or any other allurement, or else by affright of terrour, whence it comes that albeit this art of taking these Partridges be pleasant, profitable, & necessary, yet it is neither much painfull nor much difficult, but may be attained to in the fulnesse of all perfection by a mans own and onely labour, judgement, and industry, provided that his diligence be alwaies accompanied with an earnest desire and willingnesse, and that willingnesse must by all means possible never be abandoned of temperance, rest and discretion.

To speak then generally of the taking of Partridges, you shall understand that it is to be done four severall waies, that is to say, by Nets, by Lime, by Engine, and by the setting Dogge; for as touching the Hawke, which curiositie may make a fift way for the taking of them, I will here omit it, as a straine too high for this discourse, and as a peculiar Art belonging to the Noble Faulconer, not the homely and honest plain Fowler.

4 Waies to take Partridges

Haunts of the Partridge.

For the taking of Partridges with Netts, it is likewiſs to bee done divers and ſundry waies, according to the manner of hauntes, and the places wherein theſe byrdes doe inhabit; for you muſt underſtand that Partridges are not like Pheaſants, (in this caſe) conſtant to one place of abiding, but doe come into divers; nay, if they have any ſmall covert whatſoever, be it ſo high as a mans hand they will lodge in the ſame, and ſometimes in the very plaine Champaines where they have no ſhelter whatſoever, more then the poore ſhort graſſe.

But to come to the more particular and certain haunts of the Partridges, and indeed where they take moſt delight and doe moſt conſtantly abide, you ſhall underſtand that for the moſt part it is in Corne Fields, whether ſpacious or little, & eſpecially during the time that Corne is growing or ſtanding, for under the covert and ſhelter of it they meete, ingender, breede, and bringe forth their younge ones; now when the Corne is cut downe, they doe yet not withſtanding ſtill remain in the ſtubbles, eſpecially in the Wheat ſtubble (if there be plenty there-

thereof) both by reaſon of the excellencie of the graine on which they love to feed before all other, as alſo for the high and largeneſſe of the ſtubble, which makes their covert ſafer and ſtronger, but whē this wheat ſtubble is either ſcātie or of ſmall circuite, or when it is too much ſoyled and troden either with men or Cattell, then they forſake it and goe either to the Barley ſtubbles, which albeit they yeeld not ſo ſafe covert, nor ſo ſweet food, yet being freſh, pleaſant, and not ſo uſually troden or beaten, they doe take great delight therein, and will in the furrowes amongſt the clots, Brambles and longe graſſe and fogge, hide and cover both themſelves and their whole Covies or Broodes very ſufficiently, although they be very many in number, (for no Bird bringeth forth more then the Partridge) ſixteene and ſeaventeene being an ordinary brood or Covie twentie, two and twentie, and five and twenty many times found, and I have hard ſpeake of thirtie and one and thirtie: now after the Winter ſeaſon cometh, and that theſe ſtubble fields are either torne up with the plough, or otherwiſe over-ſoyled with

Cattell

cattell, meanure, or the like, then doe theſe Partridges reſort into the incloſed grounds, or upland Medowes and doe lodge in the dead graſſe or fogge, under hedges, amongſt moale hils, and under bankes or at the rootes of trees.

Alſo you ſhall finde the haunts of Partridges all the yeare longe, in ſmall Copſies or Underwoods, eſpecially if any Corne-fields lye bordering upon the ſame, as alſo in buſhie Cloſes where grow Plenty of ſhrubes and Brambles, or where there growes Broome, Brakes, Ferne, Whinnes, Gorſe, Ling, or any covert great or little whatſoever; provided ſtill that ſome Corne field be evermore adioyning to theſe coverts and quiet places, for otherwiſe theſe byrdes will take little or no delight and pleaſure therein, but rather ſhunne and eſchewe them.

Againe, in the height of harveſt time, when every Corne fielde is full both of people and cattell, ſo that theſe Byrdes can have no quiet lodging in the ſame, then you ſhall finde them in the day time in the Fallow or tilthe fields, which are next adioyning to the Corne fieldes, where

where they will lye lurking amongst the great clottes and wilde ketlockes; and onely in the earely mornings, and likewise late in the evening, fetch their food from the Corne shocks or sheaves that are the neerest adioyning.

Thus when you know their haunts, according to the Situation of the Countrie, (whether it be Champayn or woodie, Mountanous, or plaine) and the season of the yeare, whether Sommer or Winter, your next skill shall be to finde them out in their haunts, and how to know where they lodge, which is to bee done diversly: for there be some that will finde out the Covyes of Partridges by their eyes, as Hare-finders doe finde Hares, in taking their ranges over the Stable fields, or other haunts where they doe use, and casting their Eyes on each hand to both sides of the furrowes, will finde them out though they be never so close couched together, and this is a skill which can by no meanes possibly in the World, be taught by any demonstration, but only by exercise and the goodnes of the Eye, which being able at the first blinke to distinguish of every object, & to know

How to find out Partridges

know the colour of the Byrdes from the colour of the earth, and how, and in what manner they lodge and couch together, will in ranging about finde them, a good distance before he commeth neere them; Nay, I have heard of some that have found Partridges threescore paces off, by perceiving the Eye of the Partridge onely; but that I holde a cunning more then ordinary, and may be rather desired then enioyed; sure I am that any reasonable good sight which will apply himselfe thereunto, and marke but truely the colour of the Partridge, and how it differeth from the ground, as also their manner of lodging, whether it be in one entire heape or lumpe, and in one place, or else in divers little heapes, as by couples and payres in divers places, like so many browne cloths of earth, together with their diversitie and change of feather, may easily finde out a Covey of Partridges whersoever they lye, albeit he makes his range a good distance from them: And so much the rather and better, in as much as he may (when his eyes have first apprehended them) walke neerer and neerer unto them, till hee abso-

absolutely know whether there bee any mistaking in his sight or no: for these Byrdes are so dull and slothfull, and so unwilling to take to the winge to flye, except by meere compulsion, that till you bee ready to set your foote upon them they will not stirre; provided ever, that you doe not at any time stand still or gaze upon them, but be ever walking or moving; for such gazing or wondring strikes feare into them, and then presently they doe spring up and are gone.

There be others, that finde out these Partridges, by the haunts or places where they did last couch and lye, which when they have by their ranging found out, they first looke whether the haunt be olde or newe, which they may knowe by the newnesse or oldenesse of their dung or ordure, by their padlings or treading, and by the warmth or coldnesse, for if the haunt be newe, the dunge or ordure will be greene and soft, and the white end will colour your fingers; the padlinges and treadings, round about the haunt, will bee soft and durty, and the earth will bee new broken and of darker

colour

colour then the mould round about it, and being very new indeed, the haunt whereon they sate will be warm, and the ground smooth and flat, with some doun and small feathers scattered upon it.

But if the haunt be old and long forsaken, then on the contrary part, the ordure or durt will be drie and brickle, and rather moulder and break in pieces then cleave to your fingers; the padlings or treadings will be rough, drye, and hard, and of the same colour with the rest of the cruſt of the earth, and the very haunt it self whereon they sate will be as cold as any other part of the earth, without either doun or feathers, or any thing else but what is dried and bak'd into the earth, neither will there be any plainness or smoothness, but all of like colour and roughnesse; which kinde of old haunt when it is found out, it is to bee neglected, for it serveth for no other purpose or character, then to let you know that there the Partridges have beene at such or such a time, as yesterday, the other day, or a week before, for the lesse drie, the lesse clean, and the lesse soyled the haunt is, the longer time a-

goe

got it was since the Covy of Partridges were there, and the more moist, the more durty and more troubled it is, the later is the time since they fledde away.

Now if you find the haunt to bee new and warm (as aforesaid) then you may assure your selfe that the Birdes are but newly stolne off from the same, (if no affright troubled them) and are but flockt some little way (as a Land or two off, peradventure a little lesse or a little more) therefore then you shall be very circumspect, and looke as carefully as is possible about you, moving by very leisurable and slow degrees, and having a speciall regard to the furrowes of the Lands, there is no doubt but in a very short space you shall finde the whole Covy out, which as soon as you doe, you shall presently wind off from them, and by no meanes looke towards them, but as if you were careless by casting your countenance a cleane contrary way, and so fetch a great and large circumference round about them, keeping an ordinary round march, making your circumference lesse and lesse, and casting your eye busilie

and

colour then the mould round about it, and being very new indeed, the haunt whereon they sate will be warm, and the ground smooth and flat, with some doun and small feathers scattered upon it.

But if the haunt be old and long forsaken, then on the contrary part, the ordure or durt will be drie and brickle, and rather moulder and break in pieces then cleave to your fingers; the padlings or treadings will be rough, drye, and hard, and of the same colour with the rest of the cruſt of the earth, and the very haunt it self whereon they sate will be as cold as any other part of the earth, without either doun or feathers, or any thing else but what is dried and bak'd into the earth, neither will there be any plainness or smoothness, but all of like colour and roughnesse; which kinde of old haunt when it is found out, it is to bee neglected, for it serveth for no other purpose or character, then to let you know that there the Partridges have beene at such or such a time, as yesterday, the other day, or a week before, for the lesse drie, the lesse clean, and the lesse soyled the haunt is, the longer time a-

goe

goe it was ſince the Covy of Partridges were there, and the more moiſt, the more durty and more troubled it is, the later is the time ſince they fledde away.

Now if you find the haunt to bee new and warm (as aforeſaid) then you may aſſure your ſelfe that the Birdes are but newly ſtolne off from the ſame, (if no affright troubled them) and are but fleckt ſome little way (as a Land or two off, peradventure a little leſſe or a little more) therefore then you ſhall be very circumſpect, and looke as carefully as is poſſible about you, moving by very leiſurable and ſlow degrees, and having a ſpeciall regard to the furrowes of the Lands, there is no doubt but in a very ſhort ſpace you ſhall finde the whole Covy out, which aſſoon as you doe, you ſhall preſently wind off from them, and by no meanes looke towards them, but as if you were careleſſe by caſting your countenance a cleane contrary way, and ſo fetch a great and large circumference round about them, keeping an ordinary round march, making your circumference leſſe and leſſe, and caſting your eye buſilie

and

and carefull about you, till you have discovered the whole Covey, albeit they lye separated in divers parts (as many times it falleth out they doe) for your eye at the first may happen to glance but of a single partridge (for it is the nature of the old ones in these cases many times to lye alone and somewhat removed from the Covey) or of a couple at the most, but then taking your circumference or walke about them, there is no one shal escape from your knowledge.

To take Partridges by the Juke.

There be others which to finde out Partridges do goe into the hauntes either very earlye in the Morning, or at the closing up of the Evening, which is called the juking time, and there doe listen for the calling of the Cock Partridge, which will be very lowd and earnest, then presently after some few cals the Henne will make answere, which assoone as they hear they listen and follow them til they meete together, which you shall verie well perceive and know by their chattering and rejoyceing one with another, which assoone as your heare, then you shall take your range about them, and drawing in by little & little to the place where

where you heard them iuke, you ſhall carefull caſt your eie about you, eſpecially towards the Furrowes of the land, and there is no queſtion to be made, but you ſhall preſently finde where the Covie lies, and after what manner, ſo that after you may proceede to the buſineſſe of taking them according as your delight and pleaſure ſhall leade you.

To take Partridges with the Call.

Now the laſt way for finding out of theſe Partridges (and which of all other is both the beſt, ſafeſt, moſt eaſie, and moſt artificiall) is with the call (of whoſe ſharpe proportion, and manner of making I ſhall ſpeake more largely hereafter in a particular Chapter) with this call having learnt the true and naturall notes of the Partridge, and being able to tune every ſeverall note in their right and proper key, and that you know the due times and ſeaſons for every note, and can fitly accommodate them to the haunts and places wherein they are to be uſed, after the ſame manner as hath beene formerly declared for the Pheaſants; for you are to underſtand that the Partridge hath as

variable notes, and tunes, and differeth as much in her severall callings as the Phea∫ant doth, and in some cases more: having therefore (as I said) your cals made ready and fit, and that the time of the day (which must ever of neceſſitie bee either Morning or Evening, (for the Noone-day is never any good or ſeaſonable time for this purpoſe or exercise) you ſhall goe to the haunts where you doe know that Partridges doe frequent, whether it bee champaine or wood-land, corne-fields, meadowes or paſtures, and having conveied your ſelfe into ſome cloſe and ſecret place, where you may ſee and not bee ſeene; as if it be in the champaine or plaines, then under the covert of ſome Banke, Hill, or Ditch; If in the wood-landes, then under Buſhes, Shrubes, or Brambles; If in corne-fields, then in the Furrowes, or where the Corne is higheſt and thickeſt; And if in meadowes, then in the thick and high tuſted graſſe, or amongſt high weedes and ſuch other like places of ſhelter; and being thus placed in ſecret, and fit for your paſtime, you ſhall firſt liſten a while if you can heare

the partridge call, which if you doe, you ſhall then make anſwere againe, and that in the ſame note or tune in which the Partridge calleth, and ever as ſhee altereth or chaungeth her note, or doubleth it over more or leſſe, ſo ſhall you ever make anſwere and alter and change your note and time, and double or treble as ſhee ſhall give you example, and ſtill apply your call till you finde that ſhee draweth neerer and neerer unto you, and not one ſingle Partridge onely, but many, if many be within the compaſſe of the ſound of your call, and not the old ones onely ſingle by themſelves, but attended and followed on by their ſeverall covies, for this calling is ſo delightfull and naturall unto them, that they will purſue and follow it as farre as they can heare it: when thus you have drawne the Partridges unto you, and that you ſee them and their whole flockes to be come within your view, you ſhal then caſt your ſelf flat upon your back, and lye without moving as if you were dead, and then you ſhal ſee the Partridges come running and pecking about you without any feare or dread, ſo as you

ſhall not onely take a full view of them, but alſo if you pleaſe you may number and count them.

Taking of Partridges with Nets. After thus you have gotten the full perfection how to finde out partridges, your next leſſon ſhall be to learne how to take and intangle them: And firſt of the taking of them with Nettes, you muſt underſtand that the Netts where-with you muſt take Partridges, ought to bee ſhaped and proportioned in all points, both in length and breadth like unto the pheaſant Netts, onely the maſh would be ſomewhat ſmaller; It muſt be alſoof the ſelfe ſame thrid, and in like maner dyed and coloured, or if it be ſomewhat longer or ſomewhat broader, it will not be amiſſe, but a great deale better, and you ſhall take your prey more certainely and with leſſe care and hazard, for you are to underſtand, that the longer your nets are, the longer you may make your circumference or walke about them, and the broader that they are, the more ground you may cover, and ſo bring more within your danger, provided alwaies that they be not too broad or cumberſome by reaſon either of

of their length or breadth, for thereby you may not onely annoy your ſelf and hinder the worke, but alſo breede affright to the birdes, which are ſo feareſull and tender of their ſafeties, that upon the leaſt blinke or diſlike, they will preſently ſpring up and flye away, leaving all your labour fruſtrate and diſappointed; Therefore (as before ſhewed) having your nets of true ſize and compaſſe, and fitly accomodated to your purpoſe with Lines and Cordes anſwerable; you ſhall then (having found out the Covey by any meanes aforeſaid, or by other accident) drawe forth your Netts, and taking a great large circumference or ring about the Partridge, walke a good round pace with a careleſſe eye, rather from, then towards the partridge, till yon have made your Nets yare, trim, and ready for your purpoſe; which done you ſhall draw in your circumference or ring leſſe & leſſe till you come within the length of your net, then pricking down a ſticke of about three foote long or better to which you muſt faſten one ende of the Line of your Net, and making it faſt in the earth as you doe walke about (for no

ſtay or ſtop muſt be ſeene in this action) you ſhall then (letting the net ſlip out of your hand) ſpread it open as you goe, and ſo carry it and lay it all over the Partridges.

But if there be ſo many Partridges that you cannot cover them all with one nette, by reaſon that they doe lye ſtraggling and not cloſe together, then you ſhall draw forth another net, and in like manner as you did with the former, ſo you ſhall doe with the ſecond net, and ſpread it cloſe before the firſt, which done, you may alſo pinne it down and doe the like with the third net, if occaſion ſhall require it (but not otherwiſe) and having that covered your Partridges, you ſhall then ruſh into them and with an affrighting voice, as Hey, Ret, or the like, to force them to ſpring up, which they ſhall no ſooner doe, but preſently they will be intangled, ſo that then running in your nets cloſe together, you may fould all the Partridges up within the ſame, and ſo take them out at your pleaſure, and diſpoſe of them as you ſhall finde occaſion, and in this maner you may take either ſingle Partridges

tridges, paires, or the whole covies, and that not at one diſtinct and proper time, but at all ſeaſons of the yeare whatſoever, and in any ground, champaine or Woodland, or any other haunt or abiding place whatſoever.

Taking of Partridges with lime.

The next way to take Partridges is with lime or lime-rods, after this manner: You ſhall firſt take of the faireſt, ſtrongeſt and largeſt Wheate-ſtrawe you can get (of which, that which is called the whole ſtrawe wheate, is the beſt, or for want of it the faireſt and largeſt Rye-ſtrawe) and cutting them off betweene knot and knot (obſerving the loweſt ioints or knots are the ſtrongeſt and beſt) you ſhall then lime theſe with the ſtrongeſt and beſt lime, in ſuch manner as hath beene formerly declared in other Chapters for the liming of other rods or wands, and ſo comming to the haunts where Partridges doe uſually frequent, after you have called a little, and finde that you are anſwered againe, you ſhall then in ſuch manner and forme as hath beene formerly ſhewed you for other roddes, prick downe theſe limed ſtrawes round about you in many

croſſe rowes and rankes, and that not very neere you, but a prety diſtance off, ye not out of the compaſſe of your eye, but ſo as you may diſcerne when any thing toucheth them: and theſe Lymed ſtrawes you ſhal place not onely croſſe the Lands, but the furrowes alſo, taking at leaſt two or three Landes within your circumference, which done, you ſhall then lay your ſelfe downe cloſe and ſecretly and beginne againe to call, not ceaſing till you have drawne them toward you whither they cannot come, but they muſt of neceſſitie paſſe through the Lime, which they ſhall no ſooner touch, but preſently they are taken and intangled, and by reaſon that they come flocking and cloſe together, like ſo many Chickins, they wil ſo beſmeare and daube one another, that if there be twenty in the Covey hardly any one will eſcape.

Now here is to bee noted, that this manner of taking of Partridges with Limed ſtrawes, is properly to be uſed onely in Corne fields, and that principally, in the Stubble time, or from Auguſt till Chriſtmas, for before or after it is not ſo convenient: But if you will take them

in woods, in paſtures, or meadowes with Lyme, then you ſhall uſe the ordinarie Lyme-rods made of wooden wandes, as hath bin before ſhewed, and pricke them downe, and order them in all poinctes in ſuch ſort as is already mentioned of the Lymed ſtrawes, for it is both the ſafeſt, certaineſt, & beſt courſe that can be taken.

Taking Partridges with Engine, or the driving them.

There is yet another way for the taking of Partridges, which is no leſſe profitable and uſefull then either of the other, and indeed ſome what pleaſanter and fuller of delight, and that is the taking them with engine, or as ſome cal it the driving of partridges, which albe it is eſpecially applyed to the wood country, yet may it notwithſtanding be very well & commodiouſly uſed in any place or ground whatſoever. The manner to do it is thus; you ſhal firſt make an engine in the fashion of a Horſe, which engine ſhal be made of Canvaſſe, or ſome ſuch ſtuffe, and ſtopt with ſtraw or ſuch like matter, of which engine (amongſt other engines) I have ſpoken very largely of in the former part of this Booke intreating of Waterfowle, and therewithall ſet downe the lively forme or figure thereof, ſo that

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to ſtand longer upon it, were but a double labour, needleſſe, uſeleſſe, and to ſmall purpoſe.

Having therefore this Engine and your nets in a readineſſe, you ſhall goe into the haunts where the Partridges doe frequent, and having by ſome of the meanes or characters before mentioned, found out the covy of Partridges, you ſhall then in the moſt ſecreteſt and likelieſt place for that purpoſe, and taking the beſt advantage of the winde (which is ever to goe about it and drive downe the winde) you ſhall there pitch your Net; not flat and couching, but ſloapewiſe and hovering, and that ſo cloſe and ſecretly and ſo over-ſhadowed either with buſhes, ſhrubs, leaves, weedes or ſome other that groweth (naturall to the ground it ſtandeth in) that not any thing may perceive it till it bee intangled in it: when you have thus placed your net or nets, you ſhall then take your engine, and goe to the place where the Covy of Partridges lodgeth, and having your face covered or hid with ſome hood of greene, or darke blew ſtuffe, you ſhall (putting the engine before

fore you) make your foot ſtalke towards the Partridges, and by gentle and ſlow ſteps or degrees, you ſhall ſteale upon the birdes, and raiſe them as gently upon their feete (not their wings) as may be, and ſo make them runne before you, which naturally they will doe of themſelves, for their feare is ſuch, that they will runne from any thing, albeit never ſo well acquainted therewith, eſpecially from Horſe or Beaſt, becauſe by reaſon of their grazing or feeding amongſt them, they are ſtill in feare to bee trodden upon by them; thus as by gentle and ſlow ſtepps you do drive them before you (for you muſt by all meanes ſhunne raſh, ſudden, haſty and affeightfull motions) if they chance to runne any by-way, or contrarie to that which you would have them, you ſhall then preſently croſſe them with your engine, and as it were offer to face or oppoſe them, and they will preſently recoile and runne into any tract that you would have them, and thus with theſe gentle obſervations, you may drive them which way and whither you will, ſo that at laſt they will runne them-

themſelves into your net with ſuch violence and eagerneſſe, that being overthrowne and intangled therein, you may take and diſpoſe of them at your pleaſure as you ſhall have occaſion.

Taking Partridges with the ſetting Dogge.

The fourth and laſt way for the taking of partridges (and which indeed excelleth all the other for the excellency of the ſport, and the rareneſſe of the Art which is contained therein) is the taking of them with the ſetting Dogge, for in it there is a two-fold pleaſure and a two-fold Art to bee diſcovered: as firſt the pleaſure and art proceeding from the Dogge, and is contained in this manner, of ranging, hunting, and ſetting, and then the pleaſure and Art in the bird hunted, and is contained in their ſimplicity, folly, and feare, together with the care they have to preſerve themſelves by which meanes onely they are circumvented & overtake, making the old proverb Too much pitty ſpoils a Citie, and ſo too much care of themſelves is the deſtruction and loſſe of themſelves.

What a ſetting Dogge is.

To proceed then to our purpoſe, it is meete that firſt before I wade further into this diſcourſe, I ſhew you what a Setting

ting Dogge is: you ſhall then underſtand that a Setting Dogge is a certaine luſty land Spaniell taught by nature to hunt the Partridges before, and more then any other chaſe whatſoever, and that with all eagerneſſe and fierceneſſe, running the fields over and over ſo luſtily and buſily, as if there were no limit in his deſire and furie; yet ſo qualified and tempered with Art and obedience, that when he is in the greateſt and eagereſt purſute, and ſeemes to be moſt wilde and frantike, that yet even then, one hem or ſound of his Maſters voyce makes him preſently ſtand gaze about him, and looke in his Maſters face, taking all his directions from it, whether to proceede, ſtand ſtill, or retire; nay, when hee is come, even to the very place where his prey is, and hath, as it were, his noſe over it, ſo that it ſeemes hee may take it up at his owne pleaſure, yet is his temperance and obedience ſo made and framed by Arte, that preſently even on a ſudden he either ſtands ſtill, or falles downe flatte upon his belly, without daring once to open his mouth, or make any noyſe or motion at all, till that his Maſter come unto him,

and

and then proceedes in all things according to his directions and commandements.

How to set Partridges

When therefore you have either by your owu industry made such a dogge, or else by your purse, friendship, or other accidents obtained such a Dogge, you shall then take Partridges with him after this manner; being come into the fields or haunts, where Partridges doe frequent, you shall there cast off your dogge, and by crying Hey-Ret, or Hey-whir, or such like words of encouragement, according to the custome of his owne nature or education, give him leave to raunge or hunt, which as soone as hee beginneth to doe, you shall then cease from any more words, except any fault or mistaking enforce you, and then you shall use the words of correction or reprehension due for that purpose, and in all his hunting and labour, you shall have great and speciall heede that hee never range too farre from you, but beate his ground justly and even, without casting about, or flying now here and now there, and skippiug many places, which the heate and mettall

mettall of many good doggs will make them do if they be not reprehended, and therefore when any such fault shall happen, you shall presently with a them, call him in, and then with the terror of your countenance so threaten him, that he shall not dare all that day after to doe the like, but shall range with that modesty and temperance, hunting all the ground over at an inch, and ever and anon looking you in the face, as who should say, do I now please you? or no? all which, when he doth, you must then give him cherishments and encouragement.

Now if in this ranging and hunting you chance to see your dogge to make a sudden stop, or to stand still, you shall then presently make in to him (for hee hath set the Partridge) and as soone as you come to him, you shall bid him goe nearer; which if he doe, you shall still say to him, *go nearer, go nearer*; but if you find hee is unwilling to goe or creepe nearer, but either lies still, or stands shaking of his taile, as who should say here they are under my nose, and withall, now and then, looks backe upon

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on you, as if hee would tell you how neare they are: then presently, you shall cease from further urging of him, and then beginne to take your range or circumference about both the Dogge and the Partridge, not ceasing but walking about with a good round pace; and looking still before the Dogges nose, till you behold and see plainly, how and in what manner the Covey lyeth, whether close, and round together in one plumpe heape, or cluster, or else straggling and scattering, here two, there three, and in other places more or lesse, as fortune shal administer: when thus you see how the Covey lyeth, you shall then first charge the Dogge to lye still, and then drawing forth your Net as you walke, having prick'd downe one end to the ground, (as hath beene before shewed) then spread your Net all open, and (as neare as you can) cover all the Partridges therewith, even from that which lyeth next to the Dogge to that which is furthest off, but if you find that one Net will not serve to cover them, then you shall draw forth another, and holding your range or walk still in continuall motion spread

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out it, and lay it before the firſt Net, and thus you may doe with as many Nettes as you ſhall have occaſion to uſe, till the whole Covey be covered, which done, you ſhall then make in with a noiſe and ſpring up the Partridge, which ſhall no ſooner riſe, but they ſhall preſently be intangled in the Net; ſo as you may take them at your pleaſure, and diſpoſe of them as you ſhall have occaſion; in which taking whether it be this way, or any other formerly ſpoken of, if after they are in your mercy, you will then be pleaſed to let goe againe the old Cocke and the old hen, it will not onely be honeſt and Gentleman-like, but alſo good and profitable, and a meanes both to continue and increaſe your paſtime, for the young ones will be reward enough for your labour, and the old ones thus let at liberty, will bring you forth a new brood the next yeare, whereon to exerciſe your skill and knowledge, whereas to take all hand over head is ſuch an unnaturall deſtruction, that when you or any other in the Countrey would have ſport, both they and you ſhall want it, and all the whole Countrey,

(as I have seene where such destroyers live) will not be able to produce, or to shew forth one Partridge. And besides these old Partridges (which wee commonly call Ruines) being thus taken, are never good meat, nor tastfull by reason of their much toughnesse and hardnesse; so that to take them shewes rather covetousnesse and greedinesse, then delight or recreation,

Helpe in use of nets.

Now, albeit in this whole discourse, & generall use of Netts (whether this last spoken of, or any other contained in any former part of this Treatise) I have bounded them to the labour and industrie of one man; yet you shall understand, that if in these recreations or labours, you doe take a companion or a friend with you, that after you have found your game, or set your game, as soone as you doe beginne your range, or rounde walke, he may presently come in unto you, and as you take one end of the Net, so hee may take the other, and then carrying it up between you, you may equally unloose it and spread it over your game, you shall finde your worke a great deale much more ease and

and certain, and your labour more safe, and without all kind of danger of trouble.

Now for a conclusion of this treatise, when you are exquisite and perfect in all the things before spoken of, and that you can do them readily & perfectly, & with all Art and cunning, you shall then know that from these, you may drive the taking of divers other Birdes, as Quailes; Rayles, Morepoots, and divers others of like nature and condition, in all which are also very good flights, for the Hawke, and very dainty meates in the dish, as all that are either of good tooth, or good bringing up can very well witnesse. *Taking of Rayles. Quailes, &c.*

Now for their manner of haunts they are as the Partridges are, most in Corn-Fieldes, or in Pastures, or Woode neare unto Corne-Fieldes, onely the Quaile loves most the Wheate Fieldes, the Morepoots love most the Heath and Forest grounds where is store of Lynge, and such like covert, and the Railes love the long and high grasse wherein they may lie close, obscure and hidden. *Their haunts.*

For the manner of finding them, it is in all points like that of the Partridge, *How to find them.*

by the eye, by the eare, or by the haunt, all which aske the same observations, and characters which have beene formerly declared touching the Partridge, and with the same cautions, exceptions and difficulties. But the chiefe and principall meanes of all, and which indeed exceedeth all, is to finde them out by the call or pipe, to which they listen with such earnestnesse, that you can no sooner chaunt their notes, but in an instant they reply, and make answer unto you, pursuing and following the cal with such greedinesse, that they will never cease til they come unto you, and skippe and play about you, especially the Quaile, which is inamored to heare her own tune, that you can no sooner make your quaillpipe speake in the true tune, but in a trice she will make answer and not leave til she come unto you, & sport about you.

Diversitie of Notes.

Now you are to observe in the calling of these Birdes, that they have diuers notes and tunes, some belonging to the male Birdes, and some unto the female, all which you must have perfect in your remembrance, & then when you hear the male Bird call, you must

ſwer in the note of the female, and if the female call, you muſt anſwer in the note of the male, and ſo you ſhall be ſure that both the one and the other wil moſt buſily come about you, and never leave till they find the place from whence the ſound commeth, to which when they do approach, they will ſtand and gaze and liſten till the Nette be quite caſt over them.

Now for the manner of taking of any, or all of theſe Birds, it is one and the ſame with taking of the Partridge, and may bee done either by Nettes in ſuch ſort as is formerly declared in this Chapter, or elſe by lime (either buſh or rod) by the ſtalking Engine, and manner of driving, or laſtly by the ſetting-Dogge in the ſame manner and forme as hath been ſpoken of the Partridge. Of which Setting-Dogge ſince he is of ſo great uſe and excellencie, I think it not amiſſe here in this place to demonſtrate his true Figure and proportion. *How to take them:*

The forme and proportion of the Setting Dogge.

Now although ſome may thinke it ſtrange that a Dogge ſhould be brought to ſet this ſmall game, yet there is no ſtrangeneſſe therein; for Doggs in this Art are made to any thing that they are accuſtomed, ſo it be not a thing meerly contrary and againſt their natures, which this is not; for it is the nature of every Spaniel, naturally to hunt all manner of

Byrdes

Byrdes, or any thing that hath wing (though ſome with more earneſtneſs and greedineſſe then otherſome.) Now theſe are Birdes and have wing, ſo that they are naturall for the Spaniell to hunt, and there then remaineth nothing but the accuſtoming the Dogge thereunto, and acquainting him with your minde and determination, that this is the thing which you would have him hunt, which as ſoon as he underſtands, inſtantly hee purſues and followes it, and is as earneſt in it, as in any other chaſe, prey or pleaſure whatſoever.

And thus much for the taking of Partridges and other ſmaller Birdes of like nature, as alſo of the Setting-Dog, and his ſeverall uſes.

Chap. XVI.

More of the Setting-Degge, of his election, and the manner of trayning him from a whelp, til he come to perfection.

HAving ſpoken a little particularly of the Setting-Dog, and the manner of uſing him being brought to perfection, and fit for the preſent uſe of the paſtime, I will here in this place ſpeake more generally and largely of him, and ſhew how he is to be trained and brought to be fit and ſerviceable for the purpoſes before treated of, for albeit I know that in divers places of this Kingdome theſe Setting Dogges are to be taught (ſo that moſt men of ability may have them at their pleaſures) yet likewiſe I know they are ſold at ſuch great rates and prices, that no induſtrious man whatſoever (which either loves the ſport or would be partaker of the benefit) but will be glad to learne how to make ſuch a dogge himſelfe, and ſo

ſo both ſave his purſe and make his pleaſure and profit both more ſure and more delicate; for this I muſt aſſure all men, (that buy their dogges from mercenary teachers) that evermore thoſe ſales-men doe reſerve in their owne boſomes ſome one ſecret or another, for the want of knowledge, wherof the purchaſer quickly findes his dogge imperfect, and ſo is forced upon every diſorder or alteration of keeping, to ſend the dogge back to his firſt maſter a new to be reformed, which drawing on ever a new price, makes the dogges certaine price without end, without valuation.

This fault to redreſſe, and to make every man the true maſter of his owne worke, I will ſhew you here in a briefe and compendious manner al the myſteries and ſecrets which lye hidde in this labourſome buſineſſe.

The firſt thing therefore that you muſt learne in this art is, to make a true election of your dogge, which you intend to apply to this purpoſe of Setting, and in this election you ſhall obſerve, that although any dogge which is of perfect and good ſcent, and naturally addicted

to

to the hunting of feathers, as whether it be the Land-Spaniell, Water-Spaniell, or elſe the Mungrell betweene either of both thoſe kindes, or the Mungrells of either of thoſe kindes, either with the ſhallow flewed hound, the tumbler, lurcher, or indeede, the ſmall baſtard Maſtiffe may bee brought to this perfection of Setting (as I have ſeene by daily experience, both in this and in other Nations) yet is there none ſo excellent indeede as the true bred Land Spaniell, being of a nimble and good ſize, rather ſmall then groſſe, and of a couragious and fierie mettall, evermore loving and deſiring toyle, when toyle ſeemes moſt yrkſome and wearie, which although you cannot know in a whelp ſo young; as it is intended he muſt be, when you firſt begin to traine him to this purpoſe, yet may you have ſtrong ſpeculation therein, if you chooſe him from a right litter or breede wherein by ſucceſſion you have knowne that the whole generation have been endued with all theſe qualities, as namely; that he is a ſtrong, luſty and nimble ranger, both of active ſoote, wanton tayle, and bufie noſtrils, that his toyle is without

without wearineſſe, his ſearch without changeableneſſe, and yet that no delight nor deſire tranſport him beyond feare or obedience; for it is the perfectest character of the moſt perfectest Spaniel, ever to be fearefull and loving to him that is his Maſter and keeper; I confeſſe I have ſeene excellent rare Setting doggs made in the Lowe-countries, which have beene of a baſtard tumblers kind (for indeede a true Land-Spaniel, is there Gayſſon(and indeede, I have found in them (if I may ſo tearme it) a greater wiſedome (which indeede is but a greater feare) then in our Land-Spaniels, but compar ing the whole worke together, that is, the labour in ranging, the ſcent in finding, and the arte in Setting, they have beene much inferior to our dogs, and not able to ſtand up with them in the large and ſpacious Champaines, nor yet to bruſh through or make their waies in the ſharpe thickets and troubleſome coverts. To ſpeake then in a word touching the beſt choice of this Setting dogge, let him be as neere as you can the beſt bredd Land-Spaniell, that you can procure, and though ſome have beene

curious

curious in obſerving of their colours, as giving preheminence to the Motley, the Liver-hude, or the White and Blacke ſpotted; yet queſtionleſſe, it is but a vaine curioſity, for no colour is amiſſe for this purpoſe, provided the naturall qualities be perfect and anſwerable for the worke to which ende you intende them.

Now when you have thus made a good election of your Dogge, you ſhall beginne to handle and inſtruct him at foure monthes olde, or at fixe moneths at the uttermoſt, for to deferre longer time is hurtfull, and wil make the labour greater and more difficult to compaſſe, for the elder Dogges are the more ſtubborne they are, and doe both unwillingly learne, and with leſſe will retaine that which is learned. The firſt thing therefore that you ſhall teach your Whelpe is, by all meanes poſſible to make him moſt loving and familiar with you, ſo that he will not onely know you from any other perſon, but alſo fawne upon you and followe you whereſoever you goe, taking his onely delight to be only in your company, and that you may bring this the

better

better, to passe you shall not suffer him to receive any foode or cherishings from any mans hands but your owne onely; and as thus you growe familiar with the Whelpe, and make him loving and fond of you, so you shal also mixe with this familiarity a kinde of awe and obedience in the Whelpe, so as he may aswell feare you as love you; and this awe or feare you shall procure rather without countenance, frowne, or sharpe wordes, then with blowes, or any other act of cruelty, for these whelpes are quickly terryfied, and these violences of torment not onely deprives them of courage, but also makes them dull & dead spirited; whereas on the contrary part, you are to strive to keepe your Dogge (which is for this purpose) as wanton as is possible.

When therefore you have made your whelpe thus familiar and loving unto you, so as he will follow you up and downe whithersoever you goe without taking notice of any man but your selfe only, & that he knoweth your frowne from your smyle, and your gentle words from your rough, you shal begin to teach him to couch & lye downe close to the ground

ground firſt by laying him downe to the ground, and ſay unto him, Lye cloſe, lye cloſe; or ſome ſuch like word of commandment, and terrifying him with rough language, when he doth any thing againſt your meaning, and giving him not onely cheriſhings, but foode (as a peece of bread or the like, which it is intended you muſt ever carry about you) when he doth any thing according unto your will, till you have made him ſo perfectly underſtand you, that when at any time you ſhall but ſay, lye cloſe, downe, couch, or the like, that then preſently, he do the ſame, without any ſtammering, ſtay or amazement, which by paines taking, and continuall uſe, you ſhall perfectly bring to paſſe in a few daies.

This done, you ſhall then make him after the ſame manner, and with the ſame word not onely couch and lye downe (as aforeſaid) but being couched you ſhall then make him come creeping unto you with his belly and head cloſe to the ground ſo farre or ſo little way as you ſhall thinke good, and this you ſhall doe by ſaying, Come nearer, Com nearer, or the like; and at firſt (till he underſtand your

your meaning) by ſhewing him a piece of bread or ſome other foode which may intice him and draw him with more willingneſſe to come unto you, and in this leſſon you muſt obſerve, that when he offereth to come unto you, if he either raiſe from the ground his fore-parts, or his hinder-parts, or if he doe but ſo much as offer to lift up his head, that then preſently you doe not onely with your hand thruſt his body down in ſuch ſort as you would have him, but alſo accompany that action with the terror of your voice, and ſuch ratings as may not onely affright the Whelpe, but make him with greater care to ſtrive to performe your pleaſure, which performance if it come not ſpeedily as you thinke fit, or not with the willingneſſe which is to be required in ſuch an action, if then to the terror of your voice you adde a ſharpe jerke or two with a whip-coard laſh, it ſhall not be amiſſe, but much available; onely by all meanes forbeare bufferings about the dogges head with your fiſts, for ſuch correction is naught, & not only makes a dogge dull and of a ſlow ſpirit, but alſo takes away from him al pleaſure

pleaſure and delight in that which is and ſhould bee his naturall exerciſe. Now when hee doth performe your will, either fully as you would deſire, or in part according to the apprehenſion of his firſt knowledge, you ſhall then by no meanes forget not onely to cheriſh him, but alſo to feede him, and then renew his leſſon againe, till hee doe every thing as perfectly as arte can require it, couching when you command him, creeping upon his belly as farre as you will have him, and pauſing and ſtaying, when and as oft as you bid him, and in this practiſe you ſhal continue him, and make him ſo perfect and ready, that when at any time you chance to walke abroad, and that the wanton whelpe begins to play in the fields, (for range you ſhall not ſuffer him till he have full ſtrength) if you ſee him moſt buſie, even then you ſhall ſpeake unto him and make him in the height of his paſtime, preſently fall to the ground, and not onely lye cloſe, but alſo come creeping on his belly unto you, this when you have perfected, you ſhall then teach him to leade in a ſtringe or line, and to follow you at your heels cloſe

cloſe without either trouble or ſtraining of his collor, in which there is ſmall art to be uſed, more then a daily labour and practiſe, and not ſtriving too roughly with the Whelpe, but by all gentle means firſt giviug him underſtanding what to doe, and then ſhewing the manner how to doe, you ſhall ſee that in a day or leſſe, hee will doe as much as can be deſired.

When all theſe things aforeſaid are perfitly learned, it is to be imagined that by this time the whelpe will be at leaſt twelve moneths of age, at which time (the ſeaſon of the years being fit) you may very well adventure to goe into the field and ſuffer him to raunge and hunt therein, yet with ſuch carefulneſſe and obedience, that albeit his ſpirit and mettall do never ſo much tranſport him, yet upon the firſt (Hem) or warning of your voice that he ſtop and looke backe upon you, as who ſhould ſay (doe you call) and upon the ſecond, or reitteration of your voice, that forthwith he either forbeare to hunt further, or elſe com in to your foote and walke by you, till you give him new incouragement; and in

this ranging or hunting of the whelpe, you finde that through wantonneſſe or fooliſhneſſe hee be given to babling or opening without cauſe, you ſhall then at firſt chide him therefore; but if that prevaile not, you ſhall then correct him much more ſharpely, as by biting him hard with your teeth at the rootes of his eares, or elſe laſhing him hard with a ſharpe whip-cord laſh, till you have made him ſo ſtaunch, that hee will hunt cloſe and warily, without once opening either through wantonneſſe, or the riſing up of any ſmall birds before him.

Now when you have brought your dogge to this ſtaunch and obedient manner of hunting, and that he will bellow himſelf in ſuch manner as you pleaſe to appoint him, then as ſoon as you finde him to come upon the haunt of any Partridge (which you ſhall know both by his greater eagernеſſe in hunting, as alſo by a kinde of whimpering and whining in his voice, being greedily deſirous to open, onely feare and awe keepes him in unwilling obedience) you ſhall then ſpeak unto him as warning him to take

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heede, by saying (Be wise, Take heede,) or the like, but if notwithstanding he either rush in and so spring them, or else open and use any other meanes by which the Partridge escapeth, you shall then presently take him and correct him very soundly, and then cast him off againe, and either let him hunt those in such places as you have markt them, or else in some other haunts where you are assured some Covey lodgeth, and then as before shewed, being come upon the haunts, give the dogge warning, and if you see that out of fear he standeth still and waveth his taile, looking forward as if hee did point at something, then you may be sure that the Partridge, or that he hunteth, is before him, then you shall make him lie close, and your selfe taking a large range or ring about him, shall look if you can find the Partridge: which as soon as you have found, if he have set them farre off, you shall then by saying (go nearer) make the dogge creepe on his belly nearer to the Covey, but if hee be near enough, you shall then make him lie close without stirring, and then drawing your Nets

take the Partridge as hath beene before ſhewed, and then cheeriſh the dogge exceeding much, firſt by giving him the heads, necks and pinions of the Partridge, and then by clawing and clapping him, and by giving him either bread or other foode which you muſt evermore at thoſe times carry about you; but if it happen that as before, ſo againe hee chance to ſpring up the game, by his awant of taking heede or other rude neſſe, then againe you ſhall correct him more then before, and ſo take him up into your ſtring and leade him home, tying him up for that night, without giving him any thing more then a but of bread and water to keepe and maintaine life in his boſome, and then the next day have him to the field, and doe as before ſhewed, yet with ſomewhat more terror and hard countenance, that hee may not onely call to minde his former falt, but alſo ſee that yet hee hath not gotten your favour, and there is no queſtion but he will be much more carefull then hee was before, & ſtrive in al things more readily to obey your commandements; and then when he performeth your will

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and doth according to your expectation you muſt by no meanes forget to beſtow upon him all the cheeriſhings that may be, as thoſe of the voice, the hands, and of foode alſo, whereby the dogge may be delighted and encouraged to increaſe and goe forward in his well doing. And heerein you are to obſerve alſo, that when your dogge ſetteth the Partridge, if hee doe ſtand upright upon his legges looking as it were at, or over the Partridge, that then ſuch ſtanding is a fault and may give a blinke or offence to the Partridge, and therefore in this caſe you ſhall ſpeake unto the dogge and chide him, ſaying unto him, Be wiſe, or lye cloſe, not leaving till you ſee him lay himſelfe downe upon his belly on the ground.

Againe, you ſhall obſerve, that when you go in unto the Covey to ſpring the Partridges up into your nets, that if the dogge ruſh haſtily after you, and offer to ſpring them either before, or as ſoone as you, that likewiſe it is a great fault, and you muſt correct him very bitterly for the ſame; and to the ende that no fault in you may bring on that

fault in the dog, you muſt obſerve to go very leaſurely and with great diſcretion into the Covey, and ever as you go, ſpeak to the dogge to be wiſe and to lie cloſe, terrifying him in ſuch ſort that hee may not move till you give him liberty.

Many other obſervations there be, but none more materiall then theſe already rehearſed; ſo that being carefull and diligent to uſe and obſerve theſe according to the truth of their natures, there is no doubt but you ſhall bring your whelp in one foure or five moneths to that full perfection which can be required of any reaſonable judgement. And thus much for the bringing up of any Spaniel-Whelp to this excellent art of Setting.

CHAP.

CHAP. XVII.

Of the making of the best Lyme, and of the preservation, as also of the Lyming of Rodds, Bushes, Strings, &c.

NOw for as much as the perfection of this Art consisteth in the perfection of the instruments which are to bee imployed therein, and that whereas any of them shall either grow or bee defective, that there the whole worke must necessarily perish and fall to ruine, and for as much as there is no instrument more available or more casuall then Birdlime is, both by reason of the strength, and vigour, and abilitie to hold and intangle when it is good and perfect, and also the apteness to loose, not to cleave or stick, when it is either weak, rotten, or defective: I think

it not heere amiſſe to declare unto you how and in what manner to make and compound the moſt excellenteſt and perfiteſt Bird-lime, for all manner of vſes or purpoſes, wherein ſoever it ſhall bee imployed, whether it be in Winter or in Sommer, in the Froſt or in the Thawe, or whether it be by Water or by Land, or for any generall uſe to be imployed in this art of Fowling.

Making of Bird-lime. To make then the beſt and moſt excellenteſt Bird-lime, yon ſhall take at Midſomer the Barke of Holly and pill it from the Tree, ſo much as will fill a reaſonable bigge veſſell, then put to it running water, and ſet it one the fire, and boyle it till the gray and white Barke riſe from the greene, which will take for the moſt part, a whole day or better in boyling, then take it from the fire and ſeperate the Barkes after the water is very well drained from it, which done, take all the greene Barke and lay it one the grouud in a cloſe place and a moiſt floare, as in ſome low Vault or Celler, and then with all maner of greene weedes, as Dockes, Hemlock, Thyſtels and the like, cover it quite over a good thick-

thickneſſe, and ſo let it lye for the ſpace of tenne or tweive daies, in which time it will rot and turne to a filthie and flymie matter, then take it up from the ground, and put it into a lardge morter, and there beate and grinde it exceedingly till it be comed to one univerſall paſte or toughneſſe, without the diſcerning of any part of the Barke or other ſubſtance which aſoone as you ſee, you ſhall take it out of the morter, and carry it to a quicke and ſwift running ſtreame, and there waſh it exceedingly, not leaving any moate or foulneſſe within it, then put it up in a very cloſe earthen pot, and let it ſtand and purge for divers daies together, not omitting but to skum it and cleanſe it as any foulneſſe riſes, for at leaſt three or foure daies together, and then perceiving no more skum will ariſe, you ſhall then take it out of that pot and put it in another cleane earthen veſſell, and cover it cloſe, and ſo keepe it.

How to uſe Lyme.

Now when you have occaſion to uſe your Lyme, you ſhall take of it ſuch a quantitie as you ſhall thinke fit, and putting it into an earthen pipkin, with a third part of Hogges-greaſe, Capons-greaſe

greſe or Goose-greaſe, finely clarified (but Capons-greaſe or Goose-greeſe is the beſt) and ſet it on a very gentle fire, and there let them melt together, and ſtirre them continually, till they be both incorporated together, and that you cannot diſcerne any ſeparation of bodies, but all one entire and perfect ſubſtance, then take it from the fire and coole it, ſtirring it ſtill till it be cold

Lyming of Roddes, Stringes, &c.

At ſoone as your Lime is well coold, you ſhall then take your Lyme-rodes, and beaking or warming them a little over the fire to make them warme and drye, then take ſome of the Lyme ſo prepared as aforeſaid, and winde it about the tops of the rods, then drive the roddes aſunder one from another and cloſe them againe, then open them and ſhut them againe, continually plying and working them together, til by ſmearing one upon another you have equally beſtowed on every rodde a like quantitie of lyme, not any rodde having more or leſſe then another, but all alike both in thickneſſe and depth, alwaies provided that you keepe the full and entyre breadth of your hand (at leaſt) free

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and without any lyme at all, ever and anon warming the roddes before the fire to make the lime ſpread and bedde upon them the better, and to make it lye ſmoother and plainer, without any groſſe or palpable ſhew, whereby the Fowle may take affright or amazement before they come to touch it; If you lime any ſtringe, you ſhall doe it when the lime is very hot and at the thinneſt, beſmearing the ſtrings on all ſides, by folding them up together and undoing them againe, and by laying the places that are untouchit to the places that are touchit, till all be generally touched and no part of the cord free from lime, nor any part thicker or thinner then another, the knots only excepted, which muſt be a little better limed then any other part of the cord, both becauſe of their weight, and that they may faſten a great deale the ſooner. Now laſtly, for the lyming of Strawes, it muſt be done alſo when the lime is very hot, and in ſuch manner as the roddes are done, before the fire, only you muſt not doe a few, but a great heape together, as much as you can well graſpe in your hands, for ſo they are

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the ſtronger, and not ſo apt to bruiſe or breake in pieces, and therefore in the opening and working of them you ſhall not do it with a little quantitie or a few together, but ſtill as many as you can well gripe, toſſing and turning them, and working them before the fire, till they be all beſmeared, and that every ſtraw having his true proportion & quantitie of lyme, which as ſoone as you ſee it is done in perfection, you ſhall then have caſes made of leather, in which to put in your ſeverall bunches of roddes, and ſo to ſet them up and keepe them til you have occaſion to uſe them.

Now if it ſo fall out that the weather doe prove ſo extreame ſharpe and froſtie, that your Lyme-roddes doe freeſe, and thereby looſe all their ſtrength and vigor, ſo as they cannot hold any thing at all; then when you mixe your greaſe and lyme together, you ſhall take a quatter ſo much of the oyle of Peter (which the Pothecaries call Petrolium) as you doe of Capons-greaſe, and mixing them together well, and working it upon the roddes, it will ever keepe your lime ſo ſupple, tough, fine and gentle,

that

that no froſt how great or violent ſoever, ſhall by any meanes anoy or offend you. And thus much for the knowledg of Lime and the ſeverall uſes, with which I end this briefe Treatiſe or Summarie Collection of this pleaſant and delightful Arte of Fowling, which if it give any ſmall ſatisfaction or contentment, to the induſtrious and diligent Reader, I have the full accompliſhment of my deſire, and hold my paine ſufficiently rewarded.

FINIS.